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Food, A6

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The fight of his life

Dr. Lowell Hamel recovering at home after battling COVID-19

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Dr. Lowell Hamel said the community's overwhelming love and support during his weeks of fighting the effects of COVID-19 made his return to his Berrien Springs home on Monday possible.

The disease, Hamel said, nearly killed him.

Hamel had started feeling ill near the beginning of April. Then the disease progressed quickly.

"In about a week, maybe a little longer, I went from really a symptom to respiratory failure," said Hamel, who is the chief operating officer at Spectrum Health Lakeland and has a family practice in Berrien Springs, University Medical Specialties, that is also part of the hospital system.

Hamel, who had no other underlying health issues, said the team treating him at Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph made the right decision to transfer him to Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids when his condition started to rapidly decline. He said the Grand Rapids staff had more experience with the new disease because it hit that area a week before it was first found in St. Joseph.

There, he was placed on a mechanical ventilator for eight days before coming off it last Thursday. Hamel said

See **HAMEL**, page A10

Provided photo
Dr. Lowell Hamel stands in front of a welcome home sign at Apple Valley market in Berrien Springs. The Spectrum Health Lakeland COO is home after recovering from a severe case of COVID-19.

STAYING SAFE

Don Campbell / HP staff
A woman wears a mask as she walks past daffodils Monday afternoon along the bluff in downtown St. Joseph as a stay-at-home order remains in place for the state due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Holiday Inn Express planned in South Haven

Pandemic delays timetable of 4-story hotel

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — Sometime this year, a new four-story hotel is expected to join the ranks of the four existing hotels that are located on Phoenix Road near Interstate 196 in South Haven Township.

South Haven Township planners this month put their stamp of approval on a site plan for a 76-room hotel to be built on 3.5 acres of property next to Honor Credit Union. Developer Amish Patel, who also owns Great Lakes Inn & Suites in South Haven Township and the Econolodge in Paw Paw, plans to brand the new hotel as a Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

The hotel will be the first of its kind in the township, according to Township Planning Commission Chair Mark Odland.

See **HOTEL**, page A10

Study: Blood test helped detect cancer before symptoms

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

For the first time, a blood test has been shown to help detect many types of cancer in a study of thousands of people with no history or symptoms of the disease.

The test is still experimental. Even its fans say it needs to be improved and that Tuesday's results are not ideal. Yet they show what benefits and drawbacks might come from using these gene-based tests, called liquid biopsies, in routine care – in this case, with PET scans to confirm or rule out suspected tumors.

"We think that it's feasible," said Nickolas Papadopoulos, a Johns Hopkins University scientist who helped develop the test. Using it along with standard screening methods "doubled the cancers that were detected" in the study, he said.

But the test also missed many more cancers than it found and raised some false alarms that led to unnecessary followup procedures. It was only studied in women 65 to 75 years old and needs to be tried in men, other ages and more diverse groups.

"This is not at the place where it could be used today," said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, deputy chief medical officer for the American Cancer Society. "It will need many more studies to demonstrate value," including whether it improves survival, he said.

Results were published in the journal Science and discussed at an American Association for Cancer Research conference that was held online because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Many companies are working on liquid biopsies, which

See **CANCER**, page A2

Easing lockdowns makes daily life choices more complicated

By CARLA K. JOHNSON, ADAM GELLER and ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

Things were so much clearer when just about everything was locked down.

Now, with states lifting their coronavirus restrictions piecemeal and according to their own, often arbitrary, timetables, Americans are facing a bewildering multitude of decisions about what they should and should not do to protect their health, their livelihoods and their neighbors.

Is it safe now to join the crowds at the beach or eat at a restaurant? To visit the elderly parents you haven't seen in nearly two months? To reopen a struggling business?

In many cases, the less-than-satisfying answer from the experts is: It depends.

"There will never be a perfect amount of protection," said Josh Santarpia, a microbiology expert at the University of Nebraska Medical Center who is studying the coronavirus. "It's a personal risk assessment. Everybody has to decide, person by person, what risk they're willing to tolerate."

Jill Faust, 53, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, said she

See **VIRUS**, page A2

Charles Sykes / AP
A PSE&G utility worker watches the Navy's Blue Angels and the Air Force's Thunderbirds conduct "a collaborative salute" to honor those battling the COVID-19 pandemic with a flyover of New York and New Jersey on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, in this view from Jersey City, N.J.

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Index

Classifieds	A4	Local	A3	Opinion	A8	Weather	A10
Comics	A7	State	A2	Puzzles	A5		
Food	A6	Obituaries	A9	Television	A5		

Tomorrow's Weather
High 47 Low 37

6 50645 49085 0

CANCER

From page A1

look for DNA and other things that tumors shed into blood, to try to find cancer at an early stage. This test was invented by Hopkins doctors who formed a company, Thrive Earlier Detection Corp., to develop it with Third Rock Ventures, a biotech finance firm.

Until now, these multi-cancer detection tools have been tested on blood samples from people with and without cancer to estimate their accuracy. The new study was the first "real world" test in routine medical care, following patients through surgery or other treatment to see how they fared.

Nearly 10,000 women 65 to 75 years old with no history of cancer were recruited through the Geisinger Health System in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. That's because some deadly cancers such as ovarian have no screening test now, and women in this age group have a higher risk for cancer yet are young enough to benefit from finding it early, Papadopoulos said.

They were encouraged to continue regular screenings such as mammograms and colonoscopies and were given the blood test, which was repeated if findings suggested cancer. If the second test also was suspicious, they were given a whole-body PET-CT scan, an imaging test that costs around $1,000 and can reveal the location of any tumors.

After one year, 96 cancers had been diagnosed. Usual screenings found 24 and the blood test helped find 26 others. The remaining 46 were found because symptoms appeared or the cancer was discovered in other ways, such as an imaging test for a different reason.

Blood testing "made a genuine difference in discovering cancers in a small number of patients," took seven months on average, and led 1 percent of women to get a PET scan they turned out not to need, Lichtenfeld said.

The blood test helped reveal six ovarian cancers, including one in Rosemary Jemo, 71, a hairdresser and exercise instructor who lives near Hazleton in eastern Pennsylvania.

"I would have never known ... I didn't feel anything" before the football-sized tumor was found, she said. Surgeons were able to remove it and she is being monitored now.

Alberto Bardelli, a cancer specialist at the University of Turin in Italy who discussed the study at the conference, called it "extraordinary" and said it shows a way to move liquid biopsies into routine care.

The test still needs to be improved, but "it can become very valuable," he said.

The research was funded by foundations and government grants. Many study leaders have financial ties to Thrive or other companies related to the work and Johns Hopkins holds some patent rights.

Some companies may seek to market liquid biopsies under rules that allow certain tests to be sold without federal Food and Drug Administration approval.

Thrive's CEO Dave Daly said the company plans a larger, definitive study and is committed to working with the FDA, but that "all options are on the table" for developing the test.

Cost hasn't been decided, he said, but will be "in the hundreds of dollars, not the thousands."

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
5C-7C-2D-7D-5H
Midday Daily 3
9-5-6
Midday Daily 4
9-9-0-5
Daily 3
2-1-8
Daily 4
7-3-3-8
Fantasy 5
01-03-09-22-34
Keno
02-03-05-07-12-13-15-19-24-33-34-37-41-42-44-53-60-63-64-66-73-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$186 million
Powerball jackpot
$43 million

Monday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
09-12-24-34-35
Estimated jackpot
$130,000
Cash4Life
01-42-43-57-60, Cash Ball: 2
Quick Draw Midday
04-06-13-14-19-25-26-28-31-32-35-38-45-52-58-61-62-63-76-79, BE: 79
Daily Three-Midday
2-8-0, SB: 7
Daily Three-Evening
4-6-9, SB: 0
Daily Four-Midday
9-1-1-2, SB: 7
Daily Four-Evening
3-2-3-4, SB: 0
Quick Draw Evening
05-13-23-30-33-35-36-38-40-41-46-53-55-57-58-61-64-69-77-80, BE: 23

Illinois
Lotto
09-10-22-33-37-46, Extra Shot: 12
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
15-25-31-33-45
Estimated jackpot
$550,000
Pick Three-Midday
3-7-2, Fireball: 9
Pick Three-Evening
9-4-4, Fireball: 3
Pick Four-Midday
8-6-4-8, Fireball: 9
Pick Four-Evening
2-5-7-4, Fireball: 9
Lucky Day Lotto
01-17-28-29-39

– The Associated Press

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Some Detroit municipal employees heading back to work

By COREY WILLIAMS
Associated Press

WEST BLOOMFIELD. — Some Detroit city employees will be going back to work next week under strict medical protocols to protect them and others during the coronavirus pandemic, as part of the mayor's plan to reboot the city's battered economy.

About 160 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees workers and 40 Teamsters drivers will be returning to work Monday following discussions with union leadership, Mayor Mike Duggan told reporters Tuesday.

The workers primarily are involved in grass cutting outside city buildings, in parks and along roadway medians.

Each will be tested for COVID-19 before Monday and their temperature will be checked every morning. Anyone with a temperature above 100 degrees won't be allowed on job sites.

"We were always – under the governor's executive order – entitled to bring back people doing public service," Duggan said. "I had not brought them back because I wanted to make sure we had the highest standard of medical safety before we did this."

As of Tuesday, 8,823 people in Detroit have tested positive for the coronavirus and at least 987 have died. The actual number of infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested and studies suggest that people can be infected without feeling sick.

For most people, the virus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, or death.

About two weeks ago, Duggan announced layoffs, cut back some employees' hours and reduced services to meet a projected $44 million deficit due to the pandemic. A state-ordered shutdown of non-essential businesses has left Detroit without millions of dollars in casino taxes, income tax, sales tax and fees revenue. Duggan has said the city was expected to lose $348 million in revenue through June 30, 2021.

Some of the workers returning to work are among those taking pay cuts.

AFSCME Michigan Council 25 president Larry Roehrig lauded the cooperation between city and unions.

"Sometimes, the hotter the fire, the stronger the steel," Roehrig said. "I think the steel that comes out of this relationship, because of what we've been through, is going to be unparalleled and is going to be strong enough to get us through the rest of this."

The city is also wants to get road crews back to work, critical construction projects resumed and contracts out to private companies, Duggan said, adding that the nation will be dealing with the coronavirus for many months to come.

"I think the reality is that we are going to be dealing with this risk in our community for another year and maybe longer," Duggan said. "So, we just can't stay locked up in our houses for a year. We have to figure out how to interact with each other in a way that keeps us safe and reduces the spread."

Holland mayor: Enjoy city's tulips next year

HOLLAND (AP) — Western Michigan's Holland usually attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year to see the city's tulips. Officials are asking them not to – for now – as part of efforts to stop the spread of the coronavirus.

"I'm making a request that I never thought I would make – and I hope I never have to make again," Mayor Nathan Bocks said Tuesday in a city-produced video. "Please do not come to Holland to see the tulips this year."

Holland is southwest of Grand Rapids. Full blooms in some of Holland's tulip beds are expected by May 1.

In a news release, Bocks also said the city looks forward to "welcoming visitors back to Holland soon and certainly to enjoy the tulips in 2021," according to the Holland Sentinel.

VIRUS

From page A1

would hesitate to eat at an indoor restaurant when such businesses are allowed to reopen in her community Friday.

"We would have to know ahead of time what precautions they're taking," she said, citing the way some restaurants may rely on limited seating, well-spaced tables, masks for employees and disposable cups and plates. Even then, she said, it might not be worth the trouble.

"Going to a restaurant to me is this lovely, relaxing experience where you can sit with people and relax and catch up after a long day. If your experience is going to be limited by all these safety concerns, why spend the money?" she said.

Such decisions will become far more frequent in the coming weeks as officials in Europe and the U.S. move to reopen schools and businesses.

With the crisis easing in many places, France, Spain and Greece were among the latest countries Tuesday to announce roadmaps for restarting their economies. In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom said schoolchildren could be allowed to return to classrooms as early as July, though a formal decision had not yet been made.

As restrictions loosen, health authorities will be watching closely for any sign of a resurgence of the virus.

On Tuesday, for example, Germany reported an uptick in the infection rate since some small businesses were allowed to reopen just over a week ago. But it was too soon to say whether the loosening was to blame.

Around the world, confirmed infections stood at more than 3 million – including 1 million in the U.S. – and the confirmed global death toll topped 210,000, according to Johns Hopkins University. The true toll is believed to be much higher because of limited testing, differences in counting the dead and government concealment.

In the U.S., the uncertainty ahead was spotlighted in Georgia after businesses such as barber shops and tattoo parlors were given the go-ahead to reopen.

Savannah Mayor Van Johnson said people could find the changes perplexing.

"In reality we're under a stay-at-home order until April 30," Johnson said. "Yet you can go get your nails done, you can go get a tattoo, you can go to movie theaters, you can go to bowling alleys. It's those kinds of things that leave people confused."

The decisions people make are likely to vary widely depending on where they live, and how close that puts them to known virus clusters. In Georgia, where COVID-19 has killed at least 1,000, many new cases are still being reported.

But even in places with fewer known infections, people are facing uneasy choices.

In Omaha, Nebraska, where businesses can reopen next week, teachers Michelle and Mark Aschenbrenner said they are eager to return to restaurants they frequented. Mark Aschenbrenner has set up an appointment for a long-delayed haircut.

"I think we're four weeks too early," he said of the plans to lift restrictions. But "I think I'll probably still go because we've been stuck at home for seven weeks and we're going stir crazy."

With warmer weather enticing more people to venture out in the weeks ahead, it will be up to individuals to exercise caution.

"You can't swear that if somebody happens to cough on the beach chair to your left and then you have a breeze that blows that over across you, that you don't have the exposure in that way," said Dr. Marybeth Sexton, infectious-disease specialist at Emory University School of Medicine.

Even following guidelines to maintain 6-foot distances may not be enough. That rule is based on how far a different coronavirus, SARS, spread among airline passengers.

When doctors treated more than a dozen COVID-19 patients at an Omaha hospital, researchers found genetic material from the virus at greater distances – on window ledges, cellphones, in hallways and on toilet seats, Santarpia said.

That doesn't mean people shouldn't go out. But they should be very deliberate in doing so, limiting visits with relatives and friends to moments that matter, said Dr. Emily Landon, who leads infection control at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

Mother's Day – May 10 in the United States – may qualify if Mom lives nearby, she said. But limit the number of people involved and wear masks the entire time. Even if you check to make sure everyone present has been feeling well, accept that there will be risk, she said.

In Germany, where lockdowns were eased earlier this month, the number of people infected by each carrier has risen from about 0.7 to a still-manageable 0.96, said Lothar Wieler, the head of the Robert Koch Institute. He urged people to keep abiding by social-distancing rules, including wearing masks while on public transportation or shopping.

Elsewhere around the world, New Zealand reported just three new infections Tuesday, and the government loosened its lockdown. Surfers hit the waves at dawn, builders returned to construction sites and baristas fired up espresso machines.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said people have done an incredible job of breaking the chain of transmission but cautioned they must remain vigilant.

"There may still be some smoldering ashes out there, and they have the potential to become a wildfire again, if we give them the chance," she said, quoting a microbiologist.

In Australia, hundreds returned to the water after Sydney's Bondi Beach reopened to swimmers and surfers. Still, people can use the beach only during daylight and must keep their distance from one another. Australia has recorded 83 virus deaths, fewer than what most U.S. states have reported.

But the virus is still a long-term foe. The president of the Japan Medical Association, Yoshitake Yokokura, said he thinks it will be difficult to hold the rescheduled Tokyo Summer Olympics even in 2021 without an effective vaccine.

In the shorter term, it will be up to individuals as much as policymakers to make the decisions that will help chart the virus' course.

"I think everyone still needs to use their judgment. I'm not having a book club in my house. I'm going to my doctor for an allergy shot because that's safe to do," said Landon, the Chicago infection-control expert. "You can try and make it political, make it about freedom, but it's a virus. It's biology. Biology doesn't negotiate."

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When it comes to Veterans Benefits, many veterans and dependents don't know what they don't know. Nationwide, less than 10% of those eligible apply. Let us help to educate and navigate you thru the maze of what is available from discharge to death. Here are some of the many benefits:

★ Disability Compensation benefits for prior conditions, diseases or injuries that occurred in service or many years later as a result of service (e.g. Agent Orange Exposure, Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – combat or personal trauma) to name a few.

★ PTSD Counselors from the South Bend Vet Center that comes to Berrien County twice a week.

★ Non-Service Connected Veterans Pension and Survivors Pension benefits (House Bound as well as Aid and Attendance) for low income veterans over age 65 or prior to age 65 that are disabled and have at least one day of wartime service (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free transportation at designated stops for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Benefits Program to the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek and the VA Health Care Center in Mishawaka.

★ Financial assistance thru the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund for wartime veterans or peacetime veterans who earned an expeditionary medal (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free financial coaching from an Accredited Financial Counselor and Financial Fitness Coach Counselor as well as ongoing Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Military Edition classes.

★ Please read our weekly "The Veterans Voice" article in MailMax Newspaper to learn more about additional benefits for veterans and dependents. Let us be of service to you for your service.

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BERRIEN COUNTY

Weiner-Vatter is new chief assistant public defender

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

Don Campbell / HP staff
Jolene Weiner-Vatter is the new chief assistant public defender for Berrien County.

ST. JOSEPH — Jolene Weiner-Vatter has dedicated her life to advocating for quality of life for all people, including the poor and the downtrodden.

"Early in my career I had worked for the Kent County Office of the Defenders. When Michigan started implementing more intensive representation for the indigent, I wanted to be a part of that," Weiner-Vatter said.

So in 2018, she took down the shingle at her own law office in Grand Rapids and joined the Berrien County Public Defender's Office across the street from the Berrien County Courthouse in St. Joseph.

"It's an honor being here. This is an amazing community that has welcomed me with open arms. I'm here to stay," Weiner-Vatter said Tuesday, on her second day as chief assistant public defender for Berrien County.

She was promoted to that position by Chief Public Defender Paul Jancha Jr.

"Ms. Weiner-Vatter has extensive experience and expertise in criminal defense work, as well as abuse/neglect and juvenile delinquency matters, which are additional areas of indigent representation that our office supervises for Berrien County," Jancha said in announcing the appointment.

Weiner-Vatter spoke highly of Jancha, too.

"Paul is an amazing leader. He's truly brilliant, and he really has a handle on the pulse of the community," she said. "This is an amazing team of attorneys. We share ideas, we work together, and that will continue."

The office has 16 lawyers.

Weiner-Vatter graduated from Michigan State University and Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

She said while at MSU, she got a degree in criminal justice and thought she wanted to be a police officer.

"I did ride-alongs and one day I watched a police officer push a man down the hallway at the jail. I decided I didn't want to become a police officer and I went into social work. I wanted to make a difference," she said. "I have always been an advocate for people to have quality of life."

Weiner-Vatter said that before the Michigan Indigent Defense Council developed standards for legal representation of poor people, lawyers were paid a flat fee to represent them.

"The lawyers were not able to make a profit," she said. They spent little time with clients and often encouraged them to take plea deals to wrap up a case more quickly, she said.

"One thing Berrien County does really well is educate the clients. We show them police reports and jury instructions. We explain how a case proceeds, and now you're seeing more cases go to trial," she said.

Weiner-Vatter has pursued a number of continuing education opportunities in the areas of trial skills, ethnic diversity, homelessness, criminal justice reform, mental health and grant writing. She has published papers and articles and has had speaking engagements on a number of topics.

"She is highly respected within our office, the Berrien County Trial Court and the local bar," Jancha said of her. "She is willing to lend a hand to assist or train the other attorneys and staff. She is a huge asset to this office and I very much look forward to working with her in this new role."

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

BEACH WEATHER

Don Campbell / HP staff
Families enjoy Tuesday afternoon's mild weather while observing social distancing at Silver Beach in St. Joseph.

IN BRIEF

Krasl will soon make decision on art fair

ST. JOSEPH — The No. 1 item on the Krasl Art Center's Board of Directors meeting agenda next week will be whether or not to cancel or make any changes to the 2020 Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff due to the coronavirus.

"We feel a very strong sense of responsibility to the artists, and also to the community, to make sure people are safe," said Julia Gourley, executive director of the Krasl Art Center, in a Facebook video Monday night.

The 59th Annual Krasl Art Fair is set for July 11-12 and, if it is held, will feature the artwork of 200 artists from around the country.

Gourley said if there is a change to the art fair, Krasl officials will get the word out.

"Or we'll be moving full steam ahead," she said.

No St. Joseph Memorial Day Parade

ST. JOSEPH — Due to the latest developments regarding the coronavirus, the Memorial Day Parade, scheduled for Friday, May 22, has been cancelled.

Amy Zapal, executive director at St. Joseph Today, said in a news release that "The health of our visitors, residents and members is critical to St. Joe Today. With the wellbeing of our community in mind, we have decided to cancel the Memorial Day Parade."

She added, "This decision was not made lightly. We will continue to monitor the situation regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) and other upcoming SJT events."

15th death reported in Berrien

The Berrien County Health Department reported an additional death Tuesday from COVID-19.

The person was a woman over the age of 90 who had underlying medical conditions. This brings the county's death toll to 15.

In addition, the health department reported the county now has 232 confirmed positive cases, up from 217 reported Monday.

The county now has 163 people who have recovered, up from 146 reported Monday.

Presumed positive cases are hovering around 166, an increase of one from Monday.

Van Buren County now has 43 confirmed cases. The small jump from the 36 cases reported Monday is contributed to expanded testing.

Cass County gained no additional positive cases from Monday.

Both counties still have two deaths a piece, while a total of 11 people recovered.

The state and county health departments update the number of positive COVID-19 cases at about 3 p.m. each day. For state numbers, visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Local numbers and information can be found at www.bchdmi.org, and at www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19.

Harbor Shores open for golfing Friday

BENTON HARBOR — Harbor Shores Golf Course will open for the season Friday.

The course's facilities will be closed and all social distancing guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control will be in effect.

Walk the course for $75. Call the pro shop at 927-4653 to book a tee time, or go online to www.harborshoresresort.com.

Don Campbell / HP file photo
The St. Joseph school board agreed to buy an 88-passenger bus from Holland Bus Co. using money from a Series II bond that was approved in 2016.

St. Joseph school board OKs new bus, building upgrades

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The St. Joseph school district is again adding to its bus fleet.

At Monday's virtual meeting, the board voted to buy an 88-passenger bus from Holland Bus Co. for about $109,000.

The bus will be paid for through the district's 2020 Series II bond during the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Board President Barry Conybeare said there were only two bids that came in for the purchase, but that they were extremely close.

"Our two quotes came in almost $1 apart," Conybeare said. "That seems impossible when there are three pages of line items."

The district has regularly bought buses from Holland Bus Co.

"Our community graciously voted and passed this," Superintendent Thomas Bruce said, in reference to the Series II bond that was approved in 2016 as part of a three series bond. "Doing this helps with the age of our bus inventory. This saves us money in the long run and makes it easier on our mechanics."

Contracts and updates

The board also approved several key updates to buildings throughout the district.

Among them was an update on the HVAC temperature controls at E.P. Clarke and Lincoln Elementary schools. The district agreed to pay the Andy Egan Co. nearly $166,000 for the update, using the 2020-21 building and site fund.

"This is for the units on top of the roof at these schools," Bruce said. "These are older control systems that require specific knowledge to fix."

Bruce said the HVAC controls will be completed next year.

The board agreed to a contract with IBID County Electric for $173,000 for the fire suppression system at Upton Middle School. The contract will be covered from the 2020-21 building and site fund.

"It's one of those things we do each year to upgrade things," Bruce said. "This will involve more wiring and be more efficient. We want (the system) to be better and safer for our kids and our school systems."

Lastly, the board agreed to a four-year agreement after custodial negotiations.

Bruce commended the custodial crew's work in light of recent upkeep due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bruce said the district has 11 employees who are affected by the agreement.

"The negotiations went very smoothly," Bruce said. "We wanted them completed by the end of March or beginning of April. We gave them a four-year contract that increases annual costs by $20,000. A third of that increase is for medical, dental and other benefits."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @Tony Wittkowski

Senate wants elective medical procedures; greenhouses reopen

By DAVID EGGERT and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

LANSING — Republicans who control the Michigan Senate urged Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on Tuesday to lift her five-week-old ban on nonessential medical and dental procedures, saying the decision to resume should be left to hospitals and health providers.

The resolution, while symbolic, is the latest move by GOP lawmakers who are pushing the Democratic governor to ease restrictions she adopted to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The voice vote came as Whitmer asks the Legislature to this week extend an emergency declaration – the underpinning of her stay-at-home and other orders – by 28 days so health workers are immune from civil lawsuits.

The latest

The state reported 160 additional deaths, including 40 that occurred days or weeks earlier but were added to the official count after death certificates were matched to confirmed COVID-19 cases. More than 3,500 people have died.

About 1,000 new cases were reported, for total of more than 39,000. With testing on the rise, the percentage of people found to be infected is dropping. Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, the state's chief medical executive, said Monday that is a "good sign."

At TCF Center, a Detroit convention hall, only 16 beds were in use Tuesday. "It won't be very long before the field hospital gets shut down," Mayor Mike Duggan said.

Elective procedures

Hospitals in the Detroit area have had to permanently or temporarily lay off employees to focus almost entirely on COVID-19 patients. Hospitals elsewhere in Michigan have made cuts, too, due to the cancellation of nonessential surgeries and other services. Many doctors have doing telemedicine appointments.

"The word elective might imply unnecessary. But in reality, there are thousands living with serious knee or hip pain, with cataracts or dental problems. I even have a friend who can't get her melanoma treated," said Sen. Lana Theis, a Brighton Republican who accused Whitmer of having a "lack of faith" in medical professionals to safely do their work.

The Michigan State Medical Society, which represents more than 15,000 physicians, also wants the governor to reverse the ban. Spokesman Kevin McFatridge said many doctors have delayed annual checkups; routine gynecological exams; ear, nose and throat procedures; and non-emergency surgeries.

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LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE
PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL APPLICATION FOR OPERATING AND/OR CAPITAL ASSISTANCE

All citizens are advised that Twin Cities Area Transportation Auth has prepared an application for State of Michigan financial assistance for fiscal year 2021 as required under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, and for federal assistance as required under the federal transit laws, as amended.

Twin Cities Area Transportation Auth is requesting a total of $2,669,980.00 through the following funding

PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL AMOUNT
5307	Operating for 10/01/2020 to 9/30/2021	$1,921,480.00
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program	Purchase three (3) buses to replace (3) buses that have met their requirement of their useful life	$362,500.00
Job Access Reverse Commute	Provide extended service on Line Hauls and an additional commuter route to Stevensville, MI Providing service for low income passengers in Benton Harbor, Michigan to jobs located in Stevensville	$386,000.00
New Freedom Grant (Mobility Manager)	Provide transportation assistance for Seniors, Disable and low income passengers	$75,000.00

Twin Cities Area Transportation Auth ensures that the level and quality of transportation service is provided without regard to race, color, or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information regarding our Title VI obligations or to file a complaint, please contact us at the address given below.

The proposed application is on file at Twin Cities Area Transportation Auth, 275 East Wall, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 and may be reviewed during a 30-day period May 4, 2020 to June 4, 2020, between the hours of 8:00am to 5:00pm. Written comments regarding the application and/or written requests for a public hearing to review the application must be received by June 5, 2020. If a hearing is requested, notice of the scheduled date, time, and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be sent to: Twin Cities Area Transportation Auth, 275 East Wall, Benton Harbor, Michigan, 49022, or via email to pgillespie@tcatabus.org.

LEGALS

AMENDED NOTICE:
Hagar Township is holding an electronic Special Meeting on May 4th, at 6pm in order to accept the resignation of Township Trustee, Beth Raiser, to authorize advertisement of the Trustee vacancy, and to discuss the status of Roadside Park and consider options for reopening the park.
Residents and interested individuals can join the electronic meeting from their homes by calling with a cellphone or landline:

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

OR

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Listen to the prompts through the phone and when asked enter Meeting ID: 878 7592 4138 #
The phone system will ask for a participant ID number, press #

Instructions to access electronic meeting online, using your computer or smartphone's audio/microphone or camera:

Visit this URL:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87875924138
Use Meeting ID: 878 7592 4138

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GENERAL HELP

Riverside, MI
Hagar Township is seeking a Maintenance Supervisor.
Letters of interest and resume due to Township Hall by 1:00 PM on Thurs, May 7, 2020.
Job description is posted at the Township Hall or email hagarclerk@gmail.com

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

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WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI
3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, older guitars and music memorabilia. Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

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Call Ray @
269-463-3565

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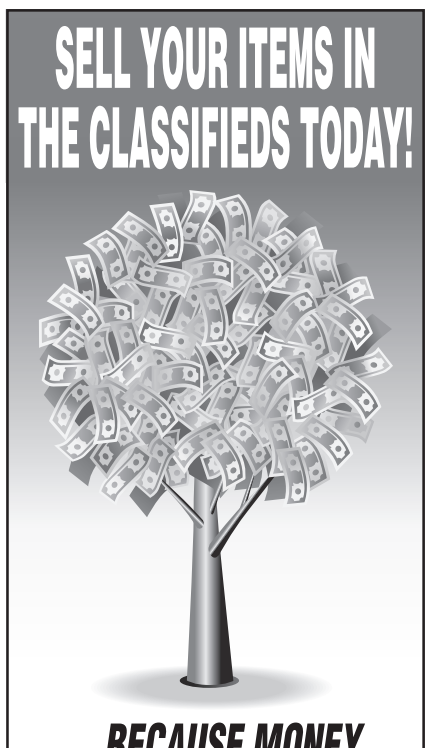

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

An alternative lifestyle will give you a refreshing perspective. Change your surroundings or venture down a path you have always wanted to travel. Take the initiative to make things happen instead of waiting for someone else to step in and take over. A proactive approach will pay off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't leave anything to chance. Say what's on your mind and do whatever is necessary to get your point across. You'll be pleasantly surprised by an unexpected turn of events.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Offer only what's reasonable if someone asks for help. Choose how you delegate your time, services and cash. A steady pace will lead to respect and financial gain.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you take charge, you will get things done your way and on time. Refuse to let less productive people or obstacles slow you down. Let your experience and intelligence guide you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Avoid getting drawn into chaotic circumstances. Focus on yourself, your loved ones and how best to avoid situations that involve outsiders. It's time to reflect and make adjustments.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The changes you bring about will affect the way you live and how you view the world around you. Trust and believe only in facts, not in hearsay.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Bypass the nonsense that someone is spouting or causing. Take care of your responsibilities and move on to things you enjoy doing. Health, fitness and updating your image are encouraged.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Present, promote and discuss your options with someone who shares your sentiments. Dealing with those who oppose you will be a waste of time. It's up to you to get things done.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Protect partnerships from people who like to meddle in others' business. Don't share your plans, secrets or passwords. Romance is in the stars.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Put your plans in motion. Making changes to your living space will encourage you to move forward in other aspects of your life. Reach out to those who share your interests.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Distance yourself from anyone putting pressure on you. Do what's best for you. Building strength and stamina is encouraged.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Make a positive change regarding your finances or how you earn your living. Don't hesitate to participate in events that are geared toward reform and helping others.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be prepared to answer questions that will change how others view you. A passionate, persistent approach to getting what you want will pay off. A physical challenge will ease your stress.

Responding to employment ads that contain a Herald-Palladium box

No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.
(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

Box (# that appears in ad)
c/o the Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER E N V E L O P E addressed as follows:

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If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

E-Mail Responses
You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to: jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

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To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

Box Charges
Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
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$25. per box- We mail responses to you once per week.
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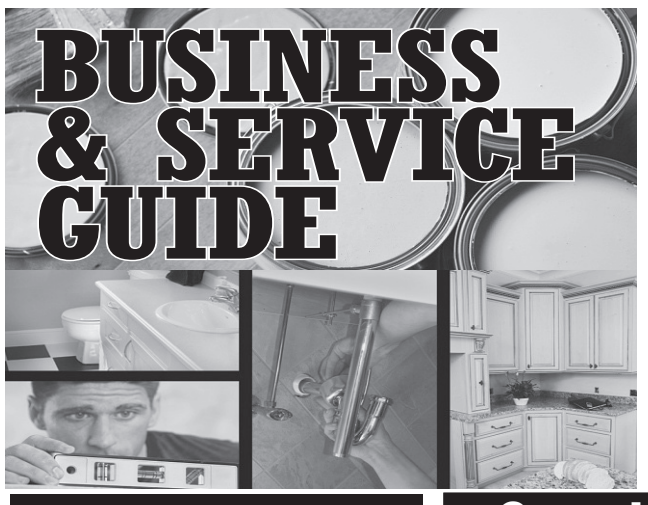
The Herald-Palladium



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PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING APR. 29

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7)(13)(41)(57)	Wheel of Fortune	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire CC		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire CC		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire CC	
CBS (2)(3)(22)	Ent. Tonight	Survivor "Friendly Fire" (N) CC		:01 SEAL Team "In the Blind" (N)		S.W.A.T. "Wild Ones" (N) CC	
NBC (5)(8)(16)	Ac. Hollywood	Chicago Med "Got a Friend in Me"		Chicago Fire "Badlands"		Chicago P.D. "Mercy"	
FOX (17)(22)(28)(32)	Modern Family	The Masked Singer Gordon Ramsay joins the panelists. (N) CC (DVS)				Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS (34)	Great Lakes	Spy in the Wild: A Nature Miniseries		H2O: The Molecule That Made Us (N)		NOVA "Poisoned Water"	
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Riverdale (N) CC		Bulletproof "Episode 1" CC		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT (50)	Family Feud (N)	Chicago P.D. "Army of One"		Dateline "Black Friday" CC		Dateline "Out There in the Dark" CC	
WCIU (26)	Mike & Molly	Riverdale (N) CC		Bulletproof "Episode 1" CC		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME (46)	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Growing Pains"		Highway to Heaven CC		Nightly News	
WGN (9)	News	black-ish	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	:00 Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters "Nightmare Camp"		Ghost Hunters "Alone in Alaska" (N)		Celebrity Ghost Stories "NeNe Leakes"	
AMC	Perfect Storm	★★★ Gran Torino ('08, Drama) Clint Eastwood, Bee Vang. A veteran faces his longtime prejudices. CC					Gangster Squad
Animal	Lone Star	Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law	
BET	★★ Madea's Family Reunion			Tyler Perry's Sistas		Boom	Boom
Big Ten	:00 Women's College Soccer			College Soccer CC			
Bravo	Housewives	Real Housewives/ Beverly		Summer House (N) CC		Watch What	Housewives
Cartoon	Gumball	Home	Burgers	Burgers	Rick	American	American
Cinemax	6:20 Reclaim	★★★ Z for Zachariah ('15) Chiwetel Ejiofor. CC			:40 ★★ The Chronicles of Riddick ('04) Vin Diesel. CC		
CMT	Last Man	Mom	TBA	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	CNBC	Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank		Jay Leno's Garage	
CNN	OutFront	Erin Burnett OutFront		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Yankers	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	Yankers
Discovery	Expedition	Expedition Unknown: Uncovered (N) CC		Expedition Unknown (N) CC		:01 Legends of the Wild (N) CC	
Disney	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven	Just Roll	Gabby	Coop
DIY	Restored	Holmes	Holmes	Holmes	Holmes	Holmes	Holmes
E!	Maid in Manhattan		:45 ★★ Maid in Manhattan ('02) Jennifer Lopez.				
ESPN	:00 2004 NBA Finals From June 15, 2004.			2014 NBA Finals			
ESPN2	:00 eSports (Taped)					eSports (Taped)	
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Oct. 26, 2012.				College Football	
Food	Grocery	Guy's Games		Guy's Games		Guy's Games	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Spotlight	Red Wings Classics Game 4. (N)					Wingspan
Freefrm	6:30 ★ Grown Ups ('10, Comedy) Adam Sandler. CC			Motherland: Fort Salem (N) CC		Motherland: Fort Salem CC	
FX	★★★ Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle ('17, Adventure) Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Jack Black. CC					What We Do	What We Do
Golf	PGA	Go Down Swinging		GOLF Films CC		Go Down Swinging	
Hallmark	Nature of Love ('20)	★ Love on the Sidelines ('16, Romance) Emily Kinney, John Reardon. CC				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	6:25 ★ Stuber	★ Bad Education ('19) Allison Janney. An embezzlement scandal rocks a school.				9:50 ★★ Anna ('19) Sasha Luss.	
History	Forged	Forged in Fire		Forged in Fire (N)		Eating	Eating
HGTV	Property	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Hunters	Hunt Intl
Learning	My 600-	My 600-Lb. Life Alicia's relationship. (N)				My 600-Lb. Life	
Lifetime	Married-Sight	Married at First Sight Cast members from the series' history. (N) CC				:03 Bride & Prejudice: Forbidden Love	
MSNBC	Decision	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	The Challenge (N) CC			Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Sports	Be Chicago: Together We Can					
NFL	NFL Total	A Football Life		A Football Life		A Football Life	
Nick	Sponge.	Danger	Sponge.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Borderfor	Borderforce USA		Borderforce USA (N)		Drug Lords: The	
Oxygen	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets Uncovered "Deadly Twist" A man is arrested for killing his wife.				Dateline: Secrets Uncovered CC	
Parmt	Two Men	★★ Sweet Home Alabama ('02) CC					Grease
Showtime	Penny Dreadful	The Affair "102" CC		Couples Therapy	Work in Progress	★★★ The Sixth Sense ('99)	
Starz	:19 ★★ The Texas Chainsaw Massacre ('03) Jessica Biel.			★★★ 21 Jump Street ('12, Comedy) Jonah Hill, Channing Tatum. CC			
STZENC	:15 ★★ The Wolfman ('10) Benicio Del Toro. CC			★★★★ The French Connection ('71) Gene Hackman, Fernando Rey. CC			
SyFy	:00 ★★ Fast & Furious ('09) Vin Diesel. CC (DVS)			★★ Pitch Black ('00, Science Fiction) Radha Mitchell, Vin Diesel. CC			
TBS	Bob's Burgers	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal
TCM	6:30 Lili ('53)	★★★★ The Magnificent Ambersons ('42) Joseph Cotten.			:45 ★ Expensive Women ('31) Dolores Costello. CC		
TMC	6:05 Scream 4	★ The Happytime Murders ('18) Melissa McCarthy.			:35 ★★ The Singing Detective ('03) Robert Downey Jr.		
TNT	Seven	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) CC				Shaq Life	Shaq Life
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Nation CC		Ghost Nation (N)		Destination Fear	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men
USA	:00 NCIS	WWE NXT (N) (L) CC				★★ The Hitman's Bodyguard	
VH1	Black Ink	Black Ink Crew		Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out
WGN-A	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With

Introducing the concept of a younger sibling can be fun

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

DEAR DOCTOR: Our son will be 3 years old when his baby sister arrives this fall. What can my husband and I do to help him understand the changes that are on the way?

DEAR READER: Congratulations on your growing family, and also on planning ahead for a major change in your son's life.

At this point, you've mastered the baby basics that were probably daunting when your son first came home, such as, well, just about everything. Now you and your husband, along with your toddler, face a new learning curve. You'll be juggling the care of two young humans at different stages of development, and your son will be coming to terms with his new role as the older – and no longer only – child. The steps you take as your pregnancy progresses, as well as how you integrate your new daughter into family life, will go a long way to smoothing the transition.

Start by talking to your son about the coming baby. As a toddler, his ability to grasp either the scope or the details is limited, so use visual examples to help bridge the gap. If someone in your circle of friends and family has a baby, see if you can arrange for your son to meet and spend time with them. (You may have to do this virtually for the time being.) If possible, repeat these visits throughout your pregnancy.

Make a game out of spotting infants when you're out and about in the world. Get one or two of the many excellent picture books available about the birth of a new sibling and read (and reread) them together. When your pregnancy has progressed enough, let your son feel the baby's movements. Explain that his new sister can hear him, and encourage him to talk and sing to her. If you've decided on a name for your new arrival, use it when talking about her.

This is a great time to break out the family photo album and show your son pictures of you while you were pregnant with him, as well as of his first few months of life. Telling a simple but specific story about each photo will not only help the images become real, it will let your son know he has a solid place in your family's history.

Pediatricians often recommend buying a life-sized baby doll and using it to practice contact, as well as caregiving activities. Include your son in the preparations for the baby. Toddlers love color and shape and texture, and letting him in on decisions for decor and toys for the new baby's room will give him a sense of ownership and control. And – very important – your husband should be actively involved in each of these steps as well.

Don't be surprised if your son becomes anxious and clingy as your due date approaches and once the new baby is home. It's common for young siblings to regress a bit at this point. Just continue to give him love, reassurance and one-on-one private time, and be patient as everyone adjusts to their new roles.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Worn out by video chats with the grandparents

Carolyn Hax

DEAR CAROLYN: Our parents, who are in their 60s, cannot see our son, who is their extremely cherished only grandchild. They all miss him terribly, which I understand – and it's mutual, he asks for them hourly – so now our daily schedule includes what amounts to hours of phone calls and FaceTime meetings with the sad grandparents.

Thank God for technology, but it's really wearing me out. I really want to put everyone on a schedule – there are divorces and remarriages, so this involves four separate households – but in the back of my mind I am always worried about all those stats about the elderly and how isolation can lead to depression, early onset dementia, etc.

Should I just suck it up and consider it our role to help brighten their days with these nonstop phone calls? For his part, my son loves them. – Worn Out

WORN OUT: This will not last.

By "this" I can mean any number of things, short-term and long-: The need for separation (presumably) won't last; the feelings of missing your son so acutely won't last; the novelty of these calls and v-chats won't last, for your son or your parents; your need to manage these calls won't last, as your son gets older.

Your sense of duty to your parents likely will last, but this current "sprint" mode will give way to "marathon" mode and you won't feel so undone by it all.

That means you have a choice here. You can set a schedule now and get it over with – or you can postpone that and, for now, think short-term only and ask yourself as you need to: "This will not last, so, what can I manage today?"

If you feel you can manage unlimited calls *today*, then allow them. If you feel you can't *today*, then say no. "But check with me tomorrow." They won't get depression or dementia before then.

If you find asking and re-asking yourself this question, renewably every single day, also wears you down, then rein the calls in whatever manner is easiest for you to explain and maintain – a time window, a daily maximum, whatever itself doesn't add to your stress.

The separation is unfortunate, and it does present specific new challenges like this one, but: Unlimited access is not a standard anyone rationally expects either to meet or have met. And irrationality isn't your problem to fix.

HI, CAROLYN: We are under shelter-in-place orders and my family is actually pretty lucky. We have plenty of space, we have savings, and my son's school quickly transitioned to virtual learning.

But I feel like I'm on the verge of sobbing uncontrollably often during the day. What's worse is that I feel like drinking. I have abstained for over 14 years and never felt so close to picking this habit back up. But now, the resources normally available to me and others like me are not accessible. Any suggestions? – Lucky in Oregon

LUCKY IN OREGON: "Others like me" indeed – anxiety and idleness make us magnets for false comforts and bad habits. Good for you for recognizing how vulnerable you are. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism offers a treatment locator that includes telehealth options: alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov. Talk to your regular doctor, too, in case referrals jump the line. Take heart, and take care.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Eating places
7 Skin transplants
13 Form a thought
14 Feel remorse
15 Where beaches are
16 Like bialies
17 Airline to Stockholm
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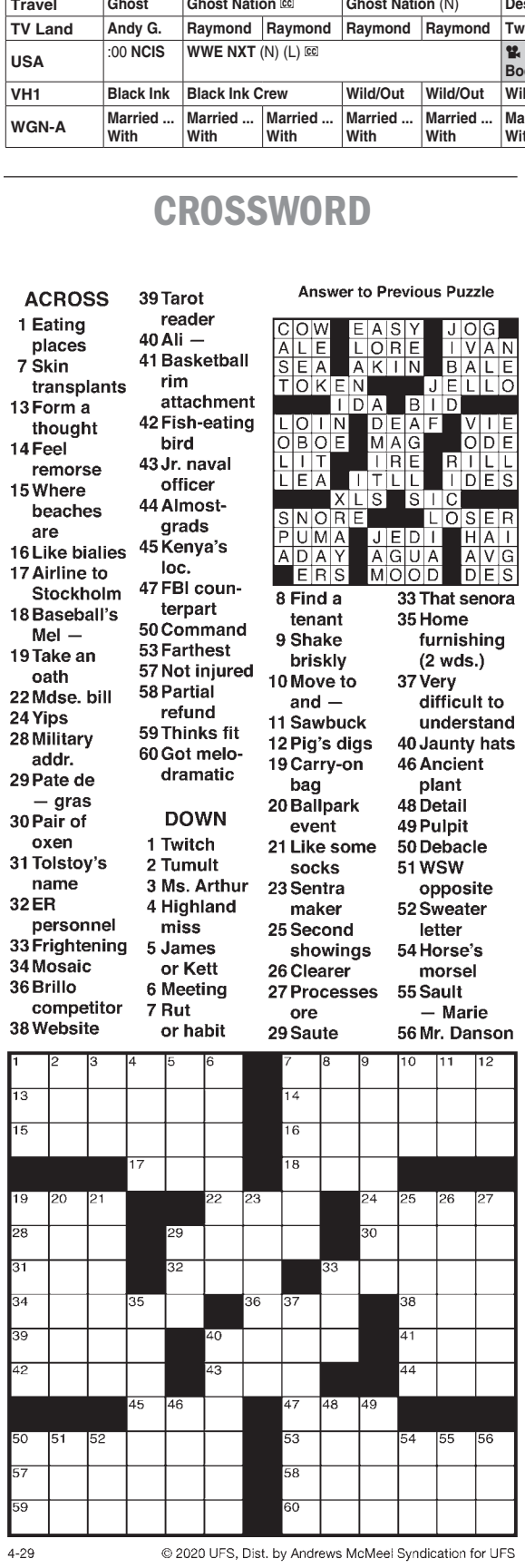
42 Fish-eating bird
43 Jr. naval officer
44 Almost-grads
45 Kenya's loc.
47 FBI counterpart
50 Command
53 Farthest
57 Not injured
58 Partial refund
59 Thinks fit
60 Got melodramatic

DOWN
1 Twitch
2 Tumult
3 Ms. Arthur
4 Highland miss
5 James or Kett
6 Meeting
7 Rut or habit
8 Find a tenant
9 Shake briskly
10 Move to and —
11 Sawbuck
12 Pig's digs
19 Carry-on bag
20 Ballpark event
21 Like some socks
23 Sentra maker
25 Second showings
26 Clearer
27 Processes ore
29 Saute
33 That senora
35 Home furnishing (2 wds.)
37 Very difficult to understand
40 Jaunty hats
46 Ancient plant
48 Detail
49 Pulpit
50 Debacle
51 WSW opposite
52 Sweater letter
54 Horse's morsel
55 Sault — Marie
56 Mr. Danson

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	O	W		E	A	S	Y		J	O	G	
A	L	E		L	O	R	E		I	V	A	N
S	E	A		A	K	I	N		B	A	L	E
T	O	K	E	N				J	E	L	L	O
			I	D	A		B	I	D			
L	O	I	N		D	E	A	F		V	I	E
O	B	O	E		M	A	G			O	D	E
L	I	T			I	R	E		R	I	L	L
L	E	A		I	T	L	L		I	D	E	S
			X	L	S		S	I	C			
S	N	O	R	E				L	O	S	E	R
P	U	M	A		J	E	D	I		H	A	I
A	D	A	Y		A	G	U	A		A	V	G
	E	R	S		M	O	O	D		D	E	S



4-29 © 2020 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

JUMBLE

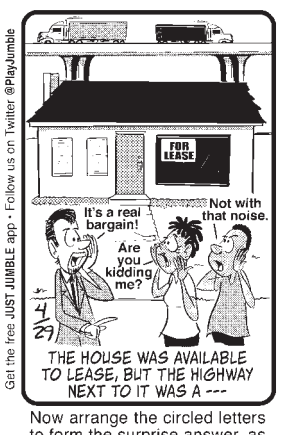
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEERU

DAAPN

HAWTTR

HOTSEO


FOR LEASE
It's a real bargain!
Are you kidding me?
Not with that noise.
4/29
THE HOUSE WAS AVAILABLE TO LEASE, BUT THE HIGHWAY NEXT TO IT WAS A ---

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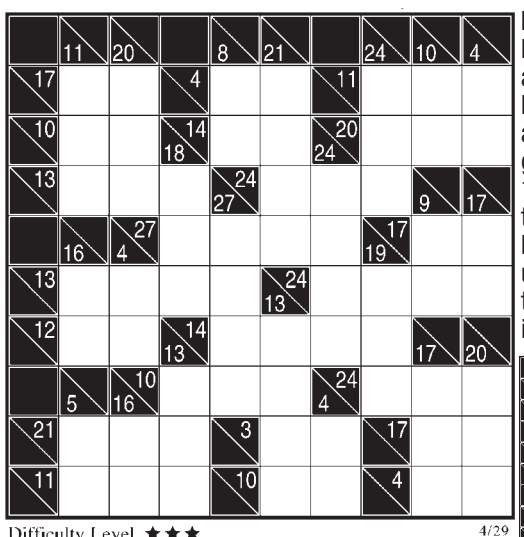
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " ○○○○○○ - ○○○○ "

(Answers tomorrow)

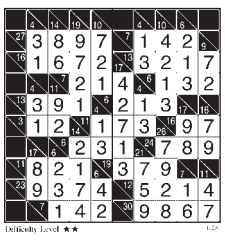
Yesterday's Jumbles: EXUDE HIKER JOGGER BURLAP
Answer: When Jeanne Calment turned 122 in 1997, 121 was — HER OLD AGE

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/29

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



Difficulty Level ★★ 1-25

BRIDGE

Warren Buffett said, "In the business world, the rearview mirror is always clearer than the windshield."

That is true at the bridge table as well. But successful players are like Buffett, picking winners while looking through the windshield and not needing the rearview mirror.

In today's deal, how should South plan the play in four spades after West leads the diamond king?

North and South have mirror distribution – the same number of cards in each of the four suits. This is usually bad news because losers stay losers forever. It is impossible either to ruff or to discard a loser. That applies here, but luckily South has enough firepower to survive if he remembers what didn't happen.

Declarer has three clear losers: two diamonds and one club. As a consequence, he must assume that the spade finesse is winning. However, South might also concede a second club trick.

Declarer takes the first or second diamond trick and runs the spade queen. Whew – the finesse works. Now he plays a spade to the ace, cashes his three heart winners and exits with a diamond. If West has to win the trick, he will be endplayed, forced either to lead a club or to concede a ruff-and-sluff. Here, though, East wins with his 10 and shifts to a low club. Should South play his jack or king?

North 04-29-20
♠ A 10 7 6 2
♥ Q 9 8
♦ 8 5 3
♣ 6 4

West
♠ K 5
♥ 10 6 3
♦ K Q J 6
♣ ? 9 7 2

East
♠ 3
♥ 7 5 4 2
♦ 10 9 4
♣ ? 10 8 5 3

South
♠ Q J 9 8 4
♥ A K J
♦ A 7 2
♣ K J

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

The key comes from the auction. West has already shown up with at least 8 points, the spade king and diamond king-queen. If he had the club ace as well, surely he would have opened.

Remember what didn't happen.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

			2	7	4			1
	4							7
		3	1	9		6		2
				5		2		6
	2		3		6		9	
4		7		2				
3		6		1	9	4		
5							7	
9			5	4	3			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

1	3	8	2	9	4	5	7	6
4	7	5	3	6	1	2	9	8
2	6	9	7	8	5	4	1	3
5	1	7	9	2	6	3	8	4
8	9	3	5	4	7	1	6	2
6	2	4	1	3	8	9	5	7
9	4	1	8	7	3	6	2	5
3	8	2	6	5	9	7	4	1
7	5	6	4	1	2	8	3	9

hp FOOD

Fare, atmosphere make supper clubs unique

Jane Ammeson

When I was young, my parents liked to dine at supper clubs. To me, they were swank places filled with dark wood, boldly colored banquettes and oversized menus where your dad would order a martini and your mom a Manhattan while you had to do with a Shirley Temple – but at least it came with a pretty paper umbrella and maraschino cherry.

These were the supper clubs of yore. They were often tucked away on back roads, and seemed to take hours – no make that days – to reach when you were riding in the back of your parents' boat-like Buick. There were no iPads or cellphones to keep you entertained, just a coloring book and a box of Crayolas.

If your brother came along, you could kill time by arguing over whether the Cubs or Sox were better – a fight that endures to this day. If not, you colored and asked every three minutes (I know because my dad timed it once) "Are we there yet?"

In Michigan, there are few supper clubs that I know of. Maybe D'Agostino's Navajo Bar & Grille in Bridgman would qualify. It has that feel.

There's Talons Supper Club in Norway, way up in the U.P., where old-fashioned ice cream drinks (typically one of the deciding factors in determining if a place is a supper club) are on the menu.

But, let's face it, is anyone going to drive 400 miles one way to go to a supper club? In Norway (population 2,845)? No, I didn't think so.

Much more local, there's the Heston Supper Club, north of La Porte, Ind. And yes, it is in the middle of nowhere.

In Syracuse, Ind., about 90 minutes from St. Joseph, The Sleepy Owl has been around for more than 50 years. I haven't been there yet, but I'll definitely visit when we can finally leave the house.

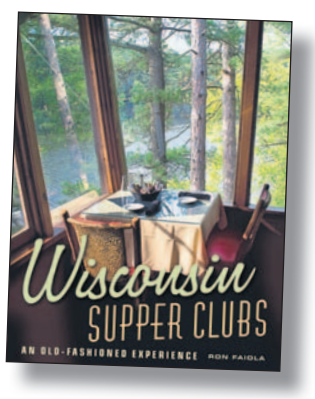
Because supper clubs are becoming big again, Millie's Supper Club in Chicago has the look – polished wood, red leather, low lighting – that is cool, unless you want old.

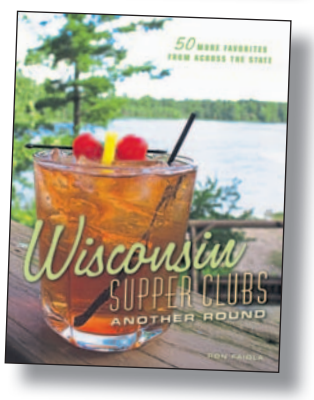
For the largest selection of real, back-in-the-day supper clubs, the place to go is Wisconsin. Ron Faiola has them covered in his two, heavy-on-photos books, "Wisconsin Supper Clubs: An Old-Fashioned Experience" and "Wisconsin Supper Clubs: Another Round."

The books came about after Faiola's film (with the same as the first book) was shown on PBS nine years ago. He also has a website, wisconsinsupperclubs.net, that organizes supper clubs by region, including many not mentioned in his books.

Photo provided

Supper clubs are often dimly lit and located in out-of-the-way locales.





Jane Ammeson / HP correspondent

Expect steaks and classic dishes like Shrimp deJonghe, seen here, when you visit a supper club.

So what exactly is a supper club?

You'd know if you walked into one, but Faiola describes them as usually only open for dinner, family owned, great service and food, and a club-like atmosphere.

The reason for all that, he says, is because there's usually at least one family member on the premises to ensure quality is maintained and guests are happy.

Expect steaks and classic dishes like Shrimp DeJonghe, a dish created at a restaurant owned by the deJonghe brothers (Pierre, Henri and Charles), who immigrated from Belgium.

Heston Supper Club has it on its menu as Sautéed deJonghe. They also serve frog legs, an old-fashioned supper club dish if there ever was one, and one even harder to find than Shrimp deJonghe.

Ditto for The Sleepy Owl, though it call its Shrimp Scampi, which is pretty much the same. And yes, they have frog legs, too.

Lobster, prime rib, fried fish and Friday night fish fries are also popular supper club items. Oh, and don't forget, the relish tray and salad bar.

Drinking is part of the experience. That's one reason there are so many Wisconsin supper clubs further north, like in Door County, Faiola says. I would hazard a guess that's why there's Talons in Norway, and also why many clubs were hidden in out-of-the-way places.

During Prohibition, as liquor was offloaded from boats and delivered via back roads to the big cities, supper clubs got their orders filled as gangsters stopped by.

The cocktails people drank then are popular again. But the thing with supper clubs is cocktails never went out of style.

In Wisconsin, the big one is the brandy old-fashioned sweet. I'd never heard of it, but according to Faiola, people in Wisconsin drink more brandy than anyone else in the U.S., usually by consuming brandy old-fashioned sweets.

Supper clubs aren't cookie cutter, Faiola says. Each is unique because of the family factor.

Faiola's books make great guides, and people use them to explore the state, choosing which supper club to try next. Even in these days, when we really can't go anywhere yet, they're still fun to look at – both as a step back in time and a look forward to when we can hit the road again.

I'm also going to be on the hunt for more Michigan supper clubs. So if anyone knows of any, let me know.

Here is the original recipe served at the deJonghe Brothers' various restaurants. It's interesting because it calls for ingredients not usually associated with fish dishes – nutmeg and mace. While both are more pie ingredients today, a century ago in Europe, they were often used in savory cooking.

Shrimp can be expensive. A reasonable substitute is a tender, mild white fish, or cauliflower that's cooked in boiling water until barely tender, just like the shrimp.

For fresh, mild white fish, it'll bake in the oven, and doesn't need to be parboiled.

The Original Shrimp deJonghe

2 pounds large shrimp (40, or 48 slightly smaller, shrimp)
1 large garlic clove, mashed with the side of a knife, or finely minced
1 1/2 teaspoons salt, divided
1 tablespoon fresh tarragon, finely chopped
1 tablespoon fresh parsley, finely chopped
1 tablespoon fresh chervil, finely chopped
Pinch of dried thyme, crumbled between your fingers and thumb
1 shallot, minced (very finely chopped)
1 tablespoon minced onion
2 sticks unsalted butter, softened, divided
1 1/2 cups fine dry breadcrumbs, divided
Pinch of freshly grated nutmeg
Pinch of mace (optional)
1/2 teaspoon black pepper, divided

Cook the shrimp in a 4-quart pot of boiling salted water (see note below) until just cooked through, about 1 1/2 minutes.

Drain the shrimp in a colander, then immediately transfer to a large bowl of ice water to stop cooking.

Heat an oven to 350 degrees.

Mash the garlic to a paste with 1/4 teaspoon salt using a mortar and pestle (or mince and mash garlic with salt using a large knife), then stir together with fresh and dried herbs, shallot, onion, 1 1/2 sticks butter, 1 cup bread crumbs, nutmeg, mace, 3/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper.

Melt remaining 1/2 stick butter and stir together with remaining 1/2 cup breadcrumbs, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper to make topping.

Arrange shrimp in 1 layer, slightly overlapping if necessary, in a buttered 3-quart flameproof gratin dish, or other wide shallow ceramic baking dish. Cover with herbed breadcrumb mixture, then sprinkle with topping.

Bake in upper third of oven until golden, about 15 minutes. Turn on broiler, and broil until crumbs are golden brown, about 2 minutes.

Note: When salting water for cooking, use 1 tablespoon for every 4 quarts water.

Note: This also can be made in 8 small baking ramekins for appetizers, or 4 larger individual baking dishes for main dish-sized.

Hand-Muddled Brandy Old-Fashioned Sweet

1 maraschino cherry
1/2 slice orange
1 sugar cube, or 1 teaspoon sugar
2-3 dashes bitters
Ice
1 1/2 to 2 ounces brandy
7UP

In a 10-12 ounce tumbler, combine the cherry, orange, sugar and bitters. Muddle together.

Add ice, then the brandy, and top with 7UP.

Garnish with an orange slice and a maraschino cherry.

Jane Ammeson can be contacted via email at janeammeson@gmail.com or by writing to Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

Does cooking food kill coronavirus? A disease expert weighs in

By GENEVIEVE KO
Los Angeles Times

I've gotten questions from readers recently asking if cooking food kills any possible coronavirus on it. I also have received requests for "100 percent-certain facts."

Given the novelty of this outbreak, research is ongoing and information evolving, so to find answers to readers' queries, I reached out to an expert in infectious disease, Dr. Stephen Berger.

Berger is board-certified in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology and is a co-founder of GIDEON, the Global Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology Network.

Here are his insights into the connections between coronavirus and food. The interview has been condensed and edited.

Q: Can COVID-19 be transmitted through food? If so, how?

A: There have been no cases of COVID-19 associated with ingestion of food, but the question is well-founded. COVID-19 is, after all, caused by a virus that enters the body through the nose or mouth.

Food items are, after all, objects that may be contaminated with the virus and placed in the mouth – but like many other viruses, bacteria and parasites, these will be swallowed and most likely destroyed by stomach acids.

David Moreno / Dreamstime / TNS

There have been no cases of COVID-19 associated with ingestion of food, says Dr. Stephen Berger, an expert in infectious disease.

Should the virus survive into the intestine, there is no pathway that will carry it to the lungs.

Q: Can COVID-19 be transmitted in the process of consuming food or only through the respiratory system?

A: The virus of COVID-19 must enter the respiratory system to produce disease. There is the possibility that material could travel from the mouth through the larynx and into the lungs.

It is thought that acquisition of COVID-19 through this route rarely, if ever, occurs.

Q: If COVID-19 is on food, can it be killed by cooking? If so, at what temperatures?

A: SARS virus, a close relative of the virus of COVID-19, is inactivated at temperatures of 56 to 65 degrees Celsius (132.8 to 149 degrees Fahrenheit).

(One aside, before we get back to the questions: An instant-read thermometer will tell you the temperature of your food; most cooked food is in or above that temperature range.)

Q: Does it die more easily than the bacteria that can last on our food?

A: Unlike viruses, bacteria can multiply in food and many species are highly resistant to heat and dryness.

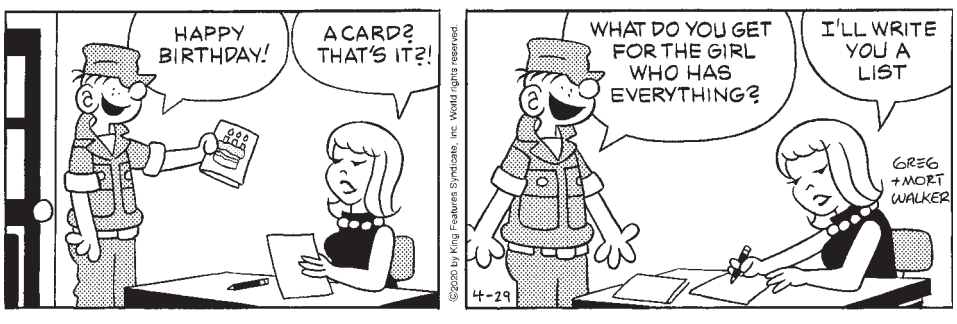
Q: Is there anything specific about COVID-19 that makes it harder to eliminate from our food?

A: Not really. Routine practices of hygiene, storage, cleansing and cooking that are already practiced in commercial shops and restaurants will also help eliminate this virus from our food.

Q: So can you acquire COVID-19 from food?

A: The bottom line answer is ... no.

BEETLE BAILEY


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
A CARD? THAT'S IT?!
WHAT DO YOU GET FOR THE GIRL WHO HAS EVERYTHING?
I'LL WRITE YOU A LIST
GREG + MORT WALKER
4-29
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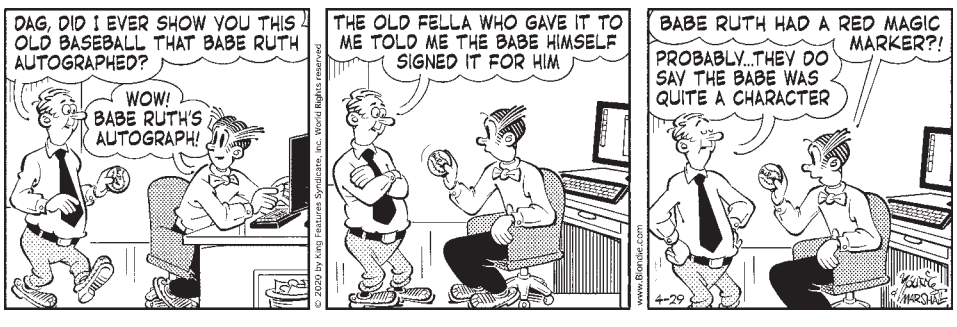
BLONDIE


DAG, DID I EVER SHOW YOU THIS OLD BASEBALL THAT BABE RUTH AUTOGRAPHED?
WOW! BABE RUTH'S AUTOGRAPH!
THE OLD FELLA WHO GAVE IT TO ME TOLD ME THE BABE HIMSELF SIGNED IT FOR HIM
BABE RUTH HAD A RED MAGIC MARKER?!
PROBABLY...THEY DO SAY THE BABE WAS QUITE A CHARACTER
4-29
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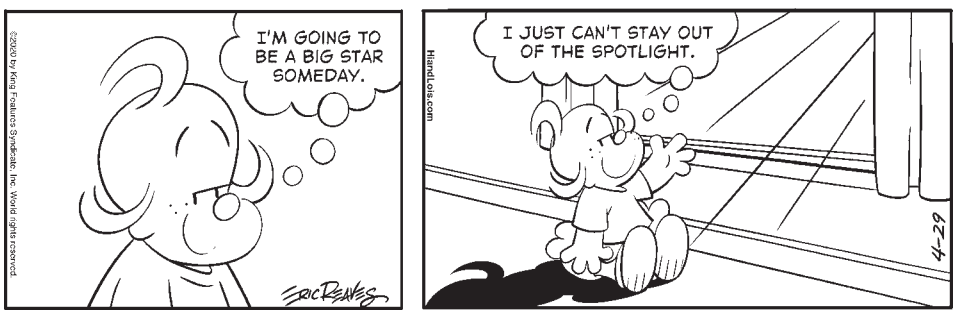
www.Blondie.com

HI & LOIS


I'M GOING TO BE A BIG STAR SOMEDAY.
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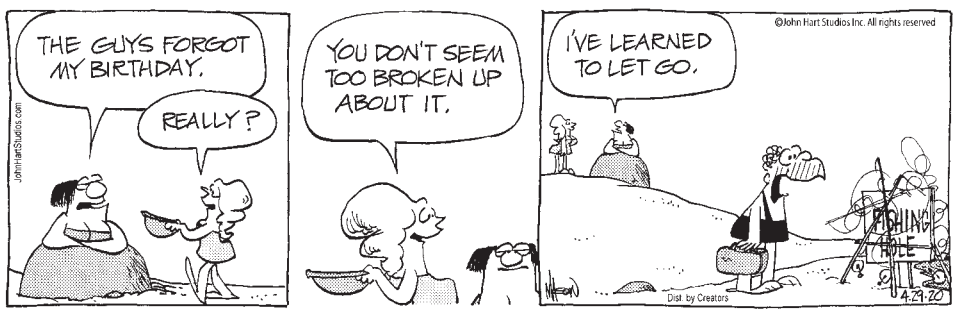
ERIC REYNOLDS
I JUST CAN'T STAY OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT.
HiandLois.com
4-29

BC


THE GUYS FORGOT MY BIRTHDAY.
REALLY?
YOU DON'T SEEM TOO BROKEN UP ABOUT IT.
I'VE LEARNED TO LET GO.
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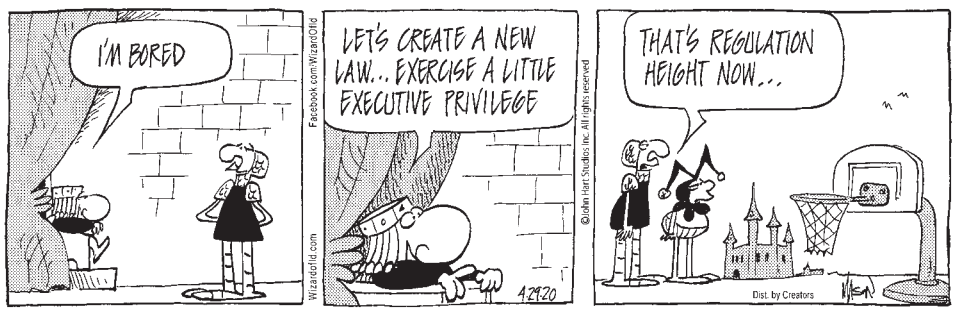
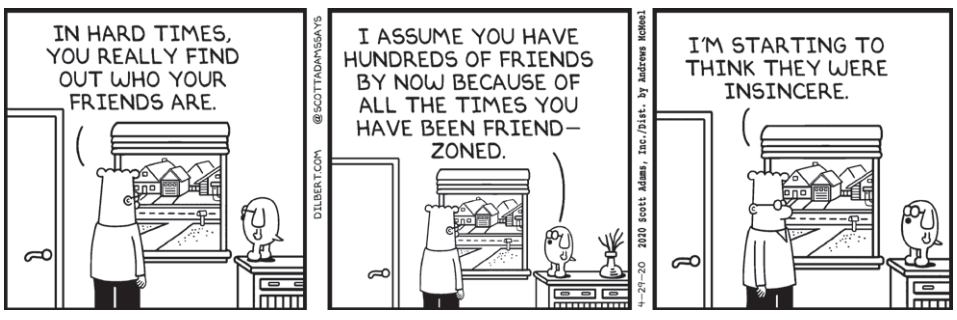
FISHING HOLE
Dist. by Creators
4.29.20

WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT


IN HARD TIMES, YOU REALLY FIND OUT WHO YOUR FRIENDS ARE.
I ASSUME YOU HAVE HUNDREDS OF FRIENDS BY NOW BECAUSE OF ALL THE TIMES YOU HAVE BEEN FRIEND-ZONED.
I'M STARTING TO THINK THEY WERE INSINCERE.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
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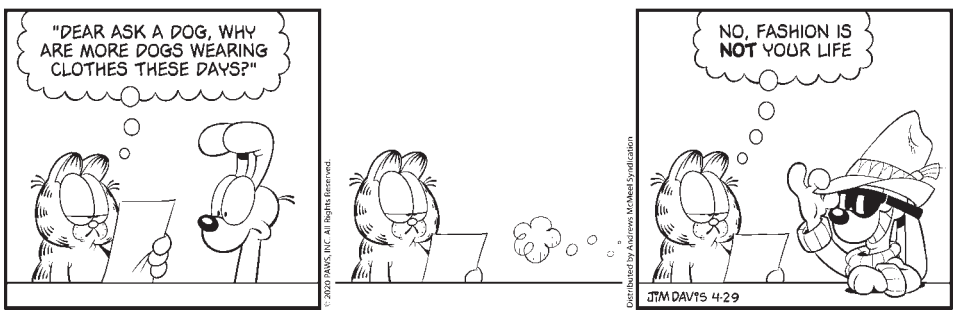
GARFIELD


"DEAR ASK A DOG, WHY ARE MORE DOGS WEARING CLOTHES THESE DAYS?"
NO, FASHION IS NOT YOUR LIFE
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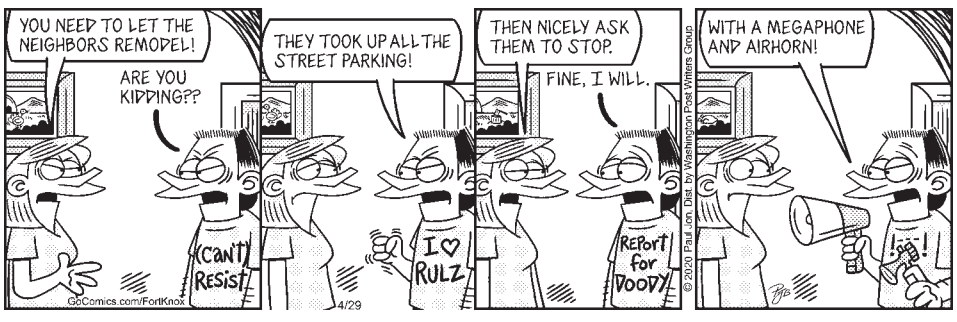
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 4-29

FORT KNOX


YOU NEED TO LET THE NEIGHBORS REMODEL!
ARE YOU KIDDING??
(CAN'T) RESIST
THEY TOOK UP ALL THE STREET PARKING!
I ♡ RULZ
THEN NICELY ASK THEM TO STOP.
FINE, I WILL.
REPORT for DOODY
WITH A MEGAPHONE AND AIRHORN!
GoComics.com/FortKnox
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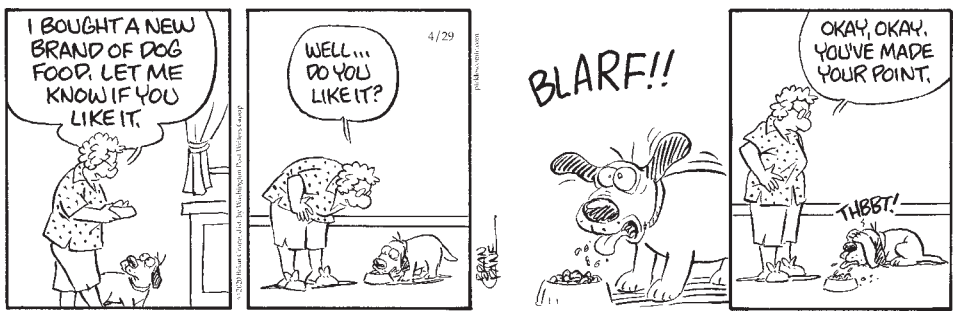
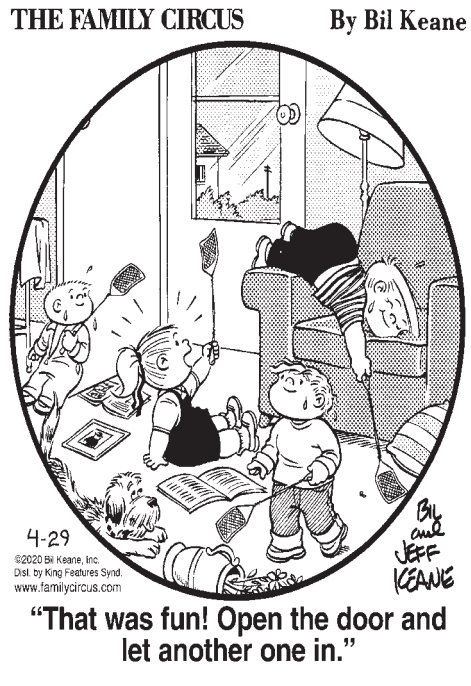
PICKLES


I BOUGHT A NEW BRAND OF DOG FOOD. LET ME KNOW IF YOU LIKE IT.
WELL... DO YOU LIKE IT?
4/29
BLARF!!
OKAY, OKAY. YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT.
THBBT!
BRIAN CRANE

FAMILY CIRCUS


THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
4-29
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Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com
Bil and JEFF KEANE
"That was fun! Open the door and let another one in."

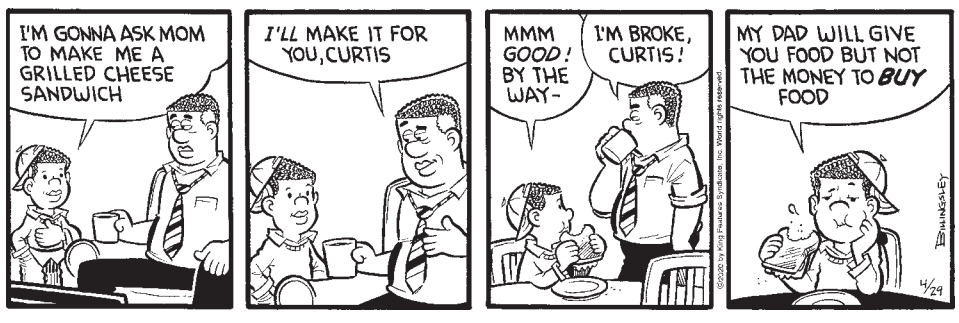
DENNIS THE MENACE

Concert in the PARK
© 2020 North America Synd.
4-29
"WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR MONEY'S WORTH, GEORGE? THE CONCERT WAS FREE!"

BABY BLUES

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK MOM'S PHONE WHILE SHE'S IN THE SHOWER!
IT'S SO SNEAKY! SO WRONG!
IT'S LIKE SOMETHING I WOULD DO!
THAT CUTS DEEP.
babyblues.com
©2020, BABY BLUES BROS LLC. Dist. by KING FEATURES SYNDICATE 4-29
HILBERMAN & SCOTT

CURTIS


I'M GONNA ASK MOM TO MAKE ME A GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH
I'LL MAKE IT FOR YOU, CURTIS
MMM GOOD! BY THE WAY-
I'M BROKE, CURTIS!
MY DAD WILL GIVE YOU FOOD BUT NOT THE MONEY TO BUY FOOD
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BRUNSKILL
4/29

ZITS

ANY PLANS FOR THE WEEKEND, JEREMY?
"WEEKEND"? THAT'S THREE DAYS AWAY!
MY PLANS ARE MADE ON THE FLY, WHICH GIVES ME A MORE DYNAMIC AND THRILLING SOCIAL LIFE.
SATURDAY NIGHT
IF THE DYNAMISM AND THRILLS ARE TOO MUCH, YOU CAN JOIN YOUR MOM AND ME FOR YAHTZEE.
4-29
SCOTT and BORGMAN
PICKLES
zitscomics.com
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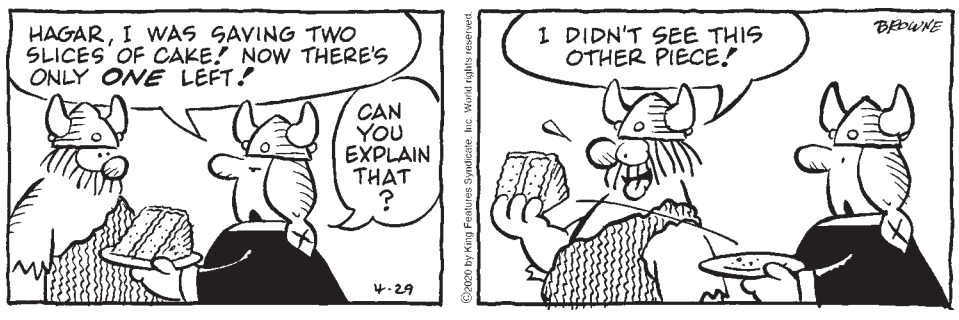
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE


HAGAR, I WAS SAVING TWO SLICES OF CAKE! NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE LEFT!
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT?
4-29
I DIDN'T SEE THIS OTHER PIECE!
BROWNE
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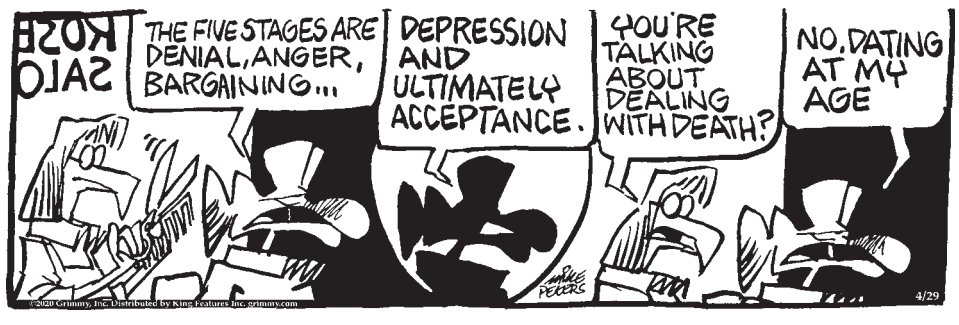
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


ROSE SALO
THE FIVE STAGES ARE DENIAL, ANGER, BARGAINING...
DEPRESSION AND ULTIMATELY ACCEPTANCE.
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT DEALING WITH DEATH?
NO, DATING AT MY AGE
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4/29

MUTTS

SALLY FORTH

HAVE YOU HEARD FROM FAYE AT ALL LATELY?
JUST THE OCCASIONAL TEXT...
AND I'M GETTING WORRIED. SOMETHING IS REALLY BOTHERING HER, BUT FOR SOME REASON I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN HER HEAD THIS TIME...
I THINK SOCIAL DISTANCING HAS PLAYED HAVOC WITH OUR MIND READING.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THANKS TO CONSTANTLY BEING AROUND MY FOLKS I CAN NOW READ THEIR MINDS, AND WOW, MY DAD'S HEAD IS JUST ONE LONG "THUNDERBIRDS" MARATHON.
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KEEFE
4-29

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Government power grabs must end

Billy Long
Opinion Maker

One of the most difficult things a nation must do after a war is learn to govern in peacetime. After the American Revolution there was almost no America. They were so focused and united on fighting the war that they had no time to plan for peace. When peace came they lost their focus and began to each strive for their own ideas and agendas. Power became the main focus. Who was going to wield the reins of government? Who was going to be in control after the war was over?

The problem deeply divided the country. It took a strong man who was not afraid to make decisions and be criticized for those decisions. George Washington and others forged a nation in the midst of peace. You would have thought that the hard part was the war, and that part was hard. But it gave each person with differing views a common foe. After that foe was defeated, each faction felt that it was OK to promote their own plan without regard to other ideas or values. They were united to fight, but divided in peace.

We are approaching peacetime in the war with this coronavirus. It seems as most politicians have given little thought to how to govern after this war is over. The country allowed them a little leeway while we fought this common enemy. What concerns me is how they are going to govern after this war is over. It seems as though many have used this time of war to push for their own agendas. Forget the rights of the common man. They did not think about the Constitution when making wartime decisions. Are they going to relinquish the power in the time of peace that too many of us willingly abdicated during the war? Do they have any reasonable plans for government in peace or are they simply going to tell us we must accept the "new normal"?

I for one am not willing to watch those in power destroy our country and ignore our Constitution simply to promote their own agenda and consolidate their power. Start now unveiling your plan for peacetime government. Don't simply kick the can down the road for another two weeks, then another two weeks. They always promise an end to the war but never allow the two sides to come together. The American way of life and freedom is warring against "safety" at any cost. There is no safety in tyranny. There is no safety in a government that does not respond to the needs of the citizens.

The ordinary citizens need financial safety as much as they need medical safety. The ordinary citizens need social fellowship as much as they need social distancing. The ordinary citizens, if given the choice, would choose freedom with the danger of sickness over the safety as promised in government overreach.

I personally wonder if in many cases it isn't overreach as much as it is a power grab. I will use this crisis to gain more access to and control of your everyday life. I will track you everywhere. I will tell you what you can buy and where. I will tell you where you can and cannot go. I will tell you how large a gathering in which you can participate.

They have grabbed power in wartime, and if we the people do not demand that we return to the old normal way of governing, they will force us to accept the "new normal" way of governing. In the name of the greater good they will take away our constitutional freedoms.

They think that America was never great, much less that it should be great again. Our founders made this a great nation by forging a Constitution that recognized unalienable rights. That means they were not granted by the government and unless we allow it, cannot be taken by the government.

So politicians, tell us how you plan to govern in peace and we can tell you how we will respond.

Billy P. Long of Benton Harbor has resided in the area since 1972. He is pastor of the Apostolic Tabernacle in Benton Township.

LETTERS

Remembering a fallen hero

Editor,

My father was Sergeant Robert L. Stevens, a policeman of Benton Township Police Department who was killed in the line of duty 50 years ago, in the early morning hours of April 29, 1970, at what was then the Homestead Restaurant. He was 36 years old.

STEVENS

One of my father's favorite songs was by The Hollies, "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother." I remember him singing this song often.

This is the way he lived his life. In the first stanza, it says, "The road is long with many a winding turn, that leads us to who knows where, but I'm strong, strong enough to carry him. He ain't heavy, he's my brother."

My Father had been a star athlete at Benton Harbor High School, playing basketball, baseball and football. He went into the Marines and then became a police officer. He was loved by everyone he met. Even someone he arrested thanked him later. He had a big heart. He was so kind and loving and adored my sister and my mom and me. There was never a doubt.

When I think of my father and 50 years now without him, I think of the missed birthdays, the graduations that were never attended, his grandchildren that he never met, weddings where he was sorely missed, all of the advice and quiet talks I missed, and getting to know him as an adult.

Just as 50 years ago my family was experiencing a tremendous amount of loss and grief, I am aware that we are

The News-Palladium
BENTON POLICE OFFICER VICTIM OF MAD KILLING
Timber Wall Rises In Status
Murdered With Own Revolver
Yale Prexy Should Be Ousted--Agnew
Says Profs Abet Violence
Memorial Fund Is Launched

The News-Palladium on April 29, 1970.

all experiencing loss and grief in these days of coronavirus and COVID-19. All of us are mourning something, at some level.

Some are mourning the loss of a job, others a family member, many of us are missing dinners out with friends and family get-togethers. I think we're all missing those wonderful things we call hugs.

There are no right or wrong ways to help or to grieve. The point is to help where you can, even just to say "I care." For those experiencing loss right now, you are not alone.

Thank you so much to all the police officers, first responders, health care workers and those who deliver much needed food and supplies. You are on the front lines, and you are living the life of this song my Father loved so much.

"It's a long, long road, from which there is no return. While we're on the way to there, why not share? And the load doesn't wear me down at all, he ain't heavy, he's my brother, so on we go."

Rosemary "Dodie" Stevens
Casselberry, Fla.
Formerly of Benton Harbor

Siren parade made birthday special

Editor,

I would like to thank the Lincoln Charter Township Fire Department and the Lincoln Township Police Department for helping to make my grandson's recent birthday one he will remember.

For the past month or so, he has consistently asked "when is the world going to be normal again?" He was hoping it would be before his birthday, but no such luck. His mom and I knew that a birthday party was out of the question, and we knew that we couldn't take him any place to celebrate. We were lost for ideas.

While he accepted the idea of his birthday being different this year, the 8-year-old in him was sad. The morning of his birthday, we were standing outside with friends when we heard a number of sirens coming our way. He looked up and saw police cars and fire trucks coming down the street, with lights and sirens just a-going! He didn't seem to understand that this parade was for him until he saw the firemen and policemen waving at him.

To the men in the vehicles that day, you made a big impact in a little boy's life. He was thrilled and a week later still talks about it. We were able to capture the scene on video and he has had it sent to all of his family and friends who couldn't be there. "Thank you" doesn't begin to convey my appreciation.

Unfortunately, since that time, I have heard several people remark that the police department and fire department shouldn't be doing this and it is a waste of taxpayers' money. That is such a selfish point of view, and I would gladly pay the money that was "wasted" during the couple minute parade if that would make the complainers quit complaining.

Lisa Laughlin
Stevensville

Government is taking our rights away

Editor,

We, as a country, have always said "that" could not happen in America. We had all better rethink that one. Our federal, state and local governments have curtailed our individual rights and ignored the American Constitution, law enforcement is complicit with them and the "mainstream" media ignores and encourages them.

We citizens follow along like lemmings, even berating fellow citizens who are standing up for the Bill of Rights and our Constitution, the very ones our government and law enforcement pledged to protect. Well, my friends, you better get ready for the "new normal" that these very same people keep talking about. We have not seen the end of these abuses, not by a long shot.

Don't forget "that" can and has happened, right here in America.

Marc Wiederwax
St. Joseph

Neighbors show love through good deeds

Editor,

In this time of separation and isolation because of the virus, it's good to have caring neighbors. I am 89 and my son, my only caregiver, is 64. We cannot volunteer or go to the club to work out.

Marsha and Bill have called us to see how we are, have given us large containers of delicious soup or cheeseburgers. We are not needy food-wise, but their love has meant much to us. I doubt if this will make the paper because most of the letters to the editor are hundreds of words long and express strong feelings about someone or something.

The book of James says that you can show your faith by word or works. Our good neighbors have shown their faith by meeting our needs both ways.

Chuck Wade
St. Joseph

Trump goes full Jonestown

Kathleen Parker

The darkly tongue-in-cheek Darwin Awards periodically disabuse us of the notion that nobody's stupid enough to, say, consider injecting themselves with disinfectant to cure coronavirus.

That is, no one except, perhaps, Donald J. Trump.

The president said at Thursday's White House coronavirus briefing that it would be "interesting" to investigate the possibility that disinfectant cleansers, which kill viruses quickly on surfaces, might have the same effect on viruses infecting the human body – if we could just get the stuff inside us. Volunteers, anyone?

"And then I see the disinfectant where it knocks it out in a minute. One minute," said Trump. "And is there a way we can do something like that, by injection inside or almost a cleaning? Because, you see, it gets on the lungs, and it does a tremendous number on the lungs. So, it'd be interesting to check that."

I wouldn't doubt that a few 6-year-olds entertained the same thoughts as Trump, but it's safe to assume that no one who routinely cleans houses is going to try out the president's "interesting" idea. In a related matter, the Food and Drug Administration issued a warning Friday against non-hospital uses of hydroxychloroquines as a COVID-19 treatment, which Trump has also touted, saying the drug can lead to death.

Given Trump's keen interest in pursuing new cures, perhaps he would consider participating in an experiment to determine the effectiveness of cleansers in eradicating COVID -19 in the human body. Of course, first, he'd have to willingly expose himself to infection, as he seems to think other Americans should by encouraging governors to reopen their states. Or, rather than take the risky path of injecting bleach, he might just take a warm bath in the stuff.

I'm kidding, of course. But, guess who wasn't? The president of the United States.

Yes, Trump tried to backpedal Friday, saying he was being sarcastic. But anyone watching the briefing could plainly see that he was serious. Enough so that the company that owns Lysol disinfectant issued a statement warning against using its product as Trump suggested. Doctors across media platforms spoke forcefully against the president's suggestion.

Trump, heretofore a mere snake-oil salesman, was suddenly peddling death to the credulous. He obviously doesn't intend for anyone to drink bleach, but should he need reminding, more than 50,000 Americans have died of the virus.

In another exploration of his imagination, Trump wondered whether "ultraviolet or just a very powerful light" – again, inside the body – might destroy the virus. Rather than call him out on the spot, as one might hope, task force coordinator Deborah Birx wanly replied that she wasn't familiar with any research that used light for treatment.

Trump was basing his scientificky daydreams on "emerging results" at the Department of Homeland Security that suggest the coronavirus may not thrive in warmer, more-humid environments. Even though his chief virologist, Anthony Fauci, has cast doubt on such speculative findings, Trump's unstable genius would not be thwarted.

"Supposing you brought the light inside the body, which you can do either through the skin or in some other way," Trump said, adding it "sounds interesting."

At least you can't say he's incurious. Perhaps Trump was imagining Obi-Wan Kenobi destroying the virus with his light saber. Or Dr. McCoy's Star Trek tricoder. McCoy's gizmo could only diagnose, but, surely we're only a weekend away from a disease zapper. They kill bugs, don't they?

Whilst we wait, the warmer, more-humid Georgia may soon provide answers. Gov. Brian Kemp moved Friday to reopen close-contact businesses, inviting citizens to go bowling, get tattoos and renew their highlights. By his decision, which, wonderingly, Trump criticized, Kemp is essentially volunteering his state to serve as the nation's petri dish.

Public health experts have warned that Georgia, with more than 800 deaths so far and a growing number of new cases, is likely to see fatalities accelerate if people take up Kemp's offer. What's a few thousand deaths in the battle to save the economy?

As the national death toll continues climbing, we can be certain that enough people will die without the help of Trump's bad policy and worse advice. For his idiotic remarks, he should be widely condemned not just by his political foes, but by everyone who cares about the nation's health – and I don't just mean its infection rates. Darwin is taking names.

Kathleen Parker is a columnist for The Washington Post. Email: kathleenparker@washpost.com.

OBITUARIES

Willie 'Jake' Scott

Sept. 27, 1922 – April 26, 2020

Willie "Jake" Scott, 97, of Benton Harbor went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, April 26, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville. Due to the current health visiting regulations, his family surrounded him days and nights outside his window, with one family member inside. On Sunday, his window was opened and he knew we were by his side and heard our prayers. The birds were chirping, the sun was shinning and he was welcomed home with God's bright presence shinning on his face.

Willie was born on Sept. 27, 1922, in Waterloo, Ala., the son of the late Charlie and Fannie Scott. On April 17, 1946, he married Emma Lee Gray, recently celebrating 74 years together. They raised three children, Chuck (Linda) Scott of Benton Harbor, John, deceased (Debbie) Scott of Florence, Ala., and Linda (Chip) Cramer of Stevensville. Willie had seven (one deceased) grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, with one expected around his birthday in September 2020.

Willie retired from Auto Specialties Manufacturing Company in 1978 with 35 years of employment. He was very influential and effective with the UAW negotiations and contract settlements, always working toward better working conditions, wages and benefit packages for the blue collar workers. After retiring from Auto's, Willie decided to get actively involved with local politics. He always had an interest in politics and had a very colorful career as a public servant for 14 years in Benton Charter Township. He served as the township clerk, and up until recently was available and called upon by many for his opinion and advice, which he loved to give. He remained active in the community politically and loved when people would stop over to see him and talk about politics. He never failed to remind his family of the privilege to vote, and to never take God and country for granted. After retiring from Benton Charter Township, Willie decided it would be fun to be a Wal-mart greeter, which he was more than qualified to perform. He loved to work and be with people. He worked until his health prevented him from performing his duties and then completely retired at the age of 80.

Willie attended the First Church of God and The Blue Roof Senior Group up until his health started to decline. He read his Bible daily and sometimes fell asleep with it. His faith in God was clearly evident and he witnessed that faith to everyone. Willie loved to grow a garden for the mere purpose of giving it all away to friends and family. He loved to see his friends and family as often as he could. He always had a joke or a story to tell. When he could no longer get out, he would call on the phone just to tell another story or another joke. His stories were long and sometimes they changed, but he always made it seem like the first time he told you. He taught us to not take life for granted.

He taught us to work hard and always give back to the community. To always have a voice and to stand up for what we believe in. He taught us to be faithful to God and to find our strength in Him. He never met a stranger and talked to everyone. He was proud of his family and told everyone he met about his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He loved sports and made sure everyone knew his Alabama teams were the best. One of his favorite lines to say when you would ask him how he is was doing was, "Not bad for an old man."

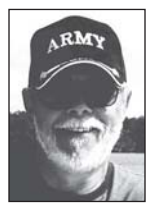
A private family gathering will be held and a public memorial service announced at a later date. His final resting place will be in Hickory Bluff Cemetery, Stevensville. Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph. Memorial contributions may be given to the Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville.

Survivors include his wife, Emma Lee Scott; son, Chuck (Linda) Scott; and daughter, Linda (Chip) Cramer; grandchildren: Kim (Oni) Werth, Kevin (Sarah) Scott, Lisa (Jason) Holok, Teresa Cramer (Jeff) Reining, Courtney Scott and John (Angie) Scott; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Willie was preceded in death by his parents; son, John; granddaughter, Amanda; and three brothers, James, Dudley and Bedford Scott.

Ralph C. 'Chuck' Dewey

June 22, 1940 – April 28, 2020



Ralph C. "Chuck" Dewey, 79, of Coloma passed away on April 28, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland in St. Joseph.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Chuck's memory may be made to Coloma American Legion and Coloma Rod and Gun Club. Those wishing to leave a message or share a memory with the family online may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Chuck was born June 22, 1940, in Benton Harbor, to Ralph and Agnes (Mikowski) Dewey. He graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1959, and served two years in the U.S. Army at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. Following the service, he attended Green's Barber College and went on to own Chucks Barber Shop in Coloma until he retired in 2002 after 39 years. Following retirement, he continued to cut hair from home for his older customers, making sure to always take care of those that were sick or in the hospital. Outside of work, Chuck loved collecting gumball and slot machines, picking up anything old from garage sales and building bird houses in the garage.

Chuck and his wife, Sharon (Zielke), were married on Sept. 14, 1963, and raised four children together. He was very much a family man. He loved spending time and playing with the kids as they were growing up and with the grandkids when they came along. Together, he and Sharon would travel in their R.V., visiting all of the states except two. For many years they would travel to Florida for the winter and when they were on the road, he would love to stop at flea markets and antique shows. Chuck has such a big heart, was always ready to help or do anything for anyone and will be missed by many.

Survivors include his wife, Sharon; his children, Dina (George) Molter, Greg Dewey, Gavin (Nikkole) Dewey and Jason (Elisabeth) Dewey; five grandchildren: Ashtynn (Sean) DeYoung, Jacob Molter, Paige and Quinn Dewey and Charlotte Dewey; and his brother, James (Sharon) Dewey.

Chuck was preceded in death by his parents; his younger sister, Margaret Ann; and his great-granddaughter, Lucille DeYoung.

Geraldine Wigfall

March 30, 1937 – April 14, 2020

Geraldine Wigfall was born March 30, 1937, in Batesville Miss., to Robert and Pearl Copper. In early 1960 she relocated with her family to Benton Harbor. Geraldine attended Benton Harbor High School. She worked at Shoreham Terrace in St. Joseph. Geraldine confessed her faith at New Paradise M.B. Church under the leadership of the Rev. Willie T. Burton.

Geraldine was well known for her kindness. She was a proud and dignified woman who had a passion for life. She had a wonderful sense of humor which endeared her to everyone she met. She was loved by many and left a special memory to those she came in contact with.

Geraldine leaves to cherish her everlasting love, daughters: Martha (Fred) Wigfall Sanders, Dinicia (Co-Ro) Wigfall Berry, Pailisa Turner, Theresa Butler, Cassandra Wigfall and April Wigfall, all of Benton Harbor; sons: Jerry Matlock, Johnnie Lee Wigfall, Nathanial (Tina) Wigfall, Joshua Wigfall and Victor Wigfall, all of Benton Harbor and Terry Matlock of Detroit; brother, Frank Copper of Benton Harbor; 33 grandchildren; 54 great-grandchildren; 23 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Geraldine was preceded in death by parents, Robert and Pearl Copper; two sisters, Maggie Wallace and Jessie May Johnson; two daughters, Darlene Brown and Yvonne Wigfall; one son, Lonnie Wigfall; and two brothers, Willie E. Copper and Eddie Joe Copper.

A private service will be held for the immediate family.

Claudine M. (Wolford) Beck Foulk

Sept. 7, 1927 – April 25, 2020

Claudine M. Foulk, 92, formerly of Galien, Frederic and Grayling, Mich., passed away on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at the home of her daughter, Nadine, in Buchanan, where she had been under the care of Caring Circle/Hospice at Home, since July of 2019.

Claudine was born Sept. 7, 1927, in Niles, to the late William I. and Bertha C. (Walls) Wolford.

Claudine is survived by two daughters, Nadine (Floyd) Quiggle of Buchanan and Ellen (Teddie) Hess of Astor, Fla.; four sons, Cliff (Sheryl) Beck of Grayling, Mich., Donald Beck of Gaylord, Mich., Chris (Rox Ann) Beck and Tom (Jacqi) Beck of Ocklawaha, Fla.; four stepchildren, Phyllis (Jim) Oulch of Jonesville, Mich., Rose Ann (Steve) Gawlick, Russel Foulk and Deana (Jason) Shaw; sister, Louise (Jack) DeWalt of Palm Bay, Fla.; sister-in-law, Patricia Wolford of Buchanan; 20 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; 28 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, William and Bertha; first husband, William Beck; husband, Clarence Foulk; daughter, Carol Anne (Beck) Echelbarger; sisters, Dorothy Carter and Alice Ward; brothers, Charles, Lawrence, Victor and William Wolford; and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation for Claudine will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 1, at Hoven Funeral Home. Funeral service will immediately follow at 1 p.m. Burial will take place at a later date in Oakwood Cemetery in Frederic, Mich. Arrangements have been entrusted to Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan. Online condolences may be made at www.hovenfunerals.com.

Vanessa Gaston

Aug. 29, 1957 – April 26, 2020

Vanessa Gaston, 62, of Watervliet died Sunday, April 26, 2020, at Lakeland Hospital, Watervliet.

Vanessa's life began Aug. 29, 1957, in Benton Harbor. She was a lifetime area resident. Vanessa worked for Memorial Hospital, both as an X-ray technician and in housekeeping. She also owned her own cleaning business for many years. When she wasn't working, you could find Vanessa playing bingo, trying her luck at the casinos, baking or gathered around a table playing Farkle with family.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, which includes, five children: John Yakel, Everette (Suzy) Gaston, Rashonda (Jason) Fuller, Melody (Elivs) Christopher and James (Karen) Gaston; 17 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; her significant other, Tony Edge; three sisters, April Christopher-Lucker, Spring Johnson and Summer Smith; and many nieces and nephews.

Her dad, Henry Christopher; mom, Betty (Alsup) Voit; and two sisters, Debbie Harry and Harriett Christopher; precede Vanessa in death.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Vanessa's family with cremation, and a service celebrating her life will be held when we can all gather together safely. You are invited to leave a message of comfort for Vanessa's family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Death notices

Phillip L. Byrdak, 56, of Buchanan died April 27, 2020, at home. Swem Chapel and Cremation Services, Buchanan, 695-6881.

Ralph C. "Chuck" Dewey, 79, of Coloma died April 28, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Claudine M. (Wolford) Beck Foulk, 92, formerly of Galien died April 25, 2020, at her daughter's home in Buchanan. Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan, 695-2363.

Sharon Freeze, 78, of Niles died April 28, 2020, at home. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Kristina Lynn (Rennhack) Lowery, 51, of Niles died April 28, 2020, at home. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremations Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Constance E. Saurbier, 77, of Millburg died April 27, 2020. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

Geraldine Wigfall, 83, of Benton Harbor died April 14, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Barbara Reynolds

July 2, 1946 – April 2, 2020

Barbara was born on July 2, 1946, in Chicago, to Richard and Gladys Reynolds. She passed away on April 2, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center in St. Joseph.

The family lived and worked in the Chicago area until events brought Barbara to Southwest Michigan, Bridgman and St. Joseph in particular. After Gladys died, Richard reconnected with an old friend, Ruth Banks Balch. They married in 1968 and blended their families of grown children.

Barbara graduated from Tinley Park High School. She worked at several places in Chicago, with her last employment at Modar in Benton Harbor. She was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Stevensville, especially in their blood drives and their participation in Relay for Life.

Barbara is survived by her sister, Kathleen Camp (Jay); and stepsisters, Susan Russell (Richard) and Patricia Anderson (Wayne). Survivors also include nieces and nephews, Keith Sawyer (Brigette), Andy Sawyer (Nita Nicholie), Sara High (Ken) and Laura Schull; and great-nieces and nephews, Aaron, Zach, Patrick, AnnieRuth, Rose, Alexandra and Ryan.

She was preceded in death by her parents; stepmom, Ruth; and her brother, Tom.

Due to current conditions, a memorial will be held at a later date, perhaps on her birthday, July 2, 2020. Those wishing to leave a memorial contribution online may do so at www.starksfamilyfh.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Heritage Chapel and Cremation Services, Berrien Springs.

Constance Saurbier

March 28, 1943 – April 27, 2020

Constance Eileen Saurbier went to be with her family in heaven on April 27, 2020. She was 77.

She was born in Watervliet on March 28, 1943. She graduated from Coloma High School in 1961. She and William "Wild Bill" Saurbier, a well-known Watervliet police officer, were married on June 24, 1988. She lived in Millburg for 32 years.

Connie enjoyed interior decorating and caring for her cats. She loved jungle cats, Elvis Presley music and staying in touch with friends and family on Facebook. She worked at South Elementary School in the mid-1980s. She was good at the technical aspects of computers and excelled at game play.

Connie is survived by her mother, Mary Lawson of Coopersville, Mich.; sisters, Pat (Al) Leverton of Coopersville, Kay Lawson of Coopersville and Marilyn "Sue" (David) Nestell of Spring Lake, Mich.; her son, Christopher (Susan) Brown of Tennessee; and many cousins.

Connie is preceded in death by her husband, Bill Saurbier; and her father, Kenneth Lawson.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Connie's family with cremation. No service will be held. Donations would be appreciated to Animal Aid, 717 St. Joseph Dr., St. Joseph, MI 49085. You are invited to leave a message of comfort for Connie's family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Corey Duckett Sr.

April 2, 1974 – April 1, 2020

Corey Lamar Duckett Sr., 45, formerly of Benton Harbor departed this life on April 1, 2020, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Our beloved father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, Corey Lamar Duckett, was born April 2, 1974, in Benton Harbor, to the late Wanda Duckett and Troy Harris. Corey loved his children and his family. Corey enjoyed fishing, family gatherings, playing cards and dominoes. Corey was a very warm-hearted man and he was always willing to help anyone.

Corey leaves precious memories in the hearts of his children: Corey Duckett Jr., Corvell Duckett, Carveal Duckett, Kyarerea Cratton, Kenyon Wofford, Korveon Duckett and Kendrail Duckett; four sisters: Amy Duckett, Quintella (Lonnie) Phipps, Lesa (Darren) Parker and Toya Harris; three brothers, Monty (Shemeki) Duckett, Troy (Angela) Carter and Dominick Harris; four grandchildren; his paternal grandmother, Ruby Terrell; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Corey was preceded in death by his parents; his maternal grandparents, Robert and Rebecca Duckett; and his paternal grandfather, Archie Terrell.

A private service will be held for the immediate family.

Portage fun center scraps plan to reopen after community backlash

By RYAN BOLDREY
mlive.com

PORTAGE — Not even 24 hours passed after Airway Fun Center announced on social media they would reopen select outdoor attractions before the popular Portage destination reversed course amid public backlash.

More than 100 messages flooded the fun center's Facebook page overnight, prompting the park to announce Tuesday morning that instead of opening at noon for the season, they would remain closed.

"We heard from our customers and we listened," General Manager Marc Wiese said. "I didn't sleep too well last night."

The majority of the comments on the fun center's Facebook page called out the center for being selfish, irresponsible and in direct violation of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order.

Many said they would never patronize the fun center again if they did not reconsider the decision, worrying the park was exactly the type of place the virus could continue to easily spread. One person, who said she was a former employee, said she was embarrassed to ever have had worked there.

Only a couple people came to the fun center's defense, and applauded the decision to open attractions.

"We thought it might be 50/50," Wiese said of their expectations for public reaction. "It certainly wasn't that on Facebook.

"Obviously, with the stay at home order, it probably wasn't the best idea we've come up with, so we rethought it. One of our core values is do the right thing and that was the right thing to do. So we made the decision this morning to stay closed."

Wiese said the initial decision to open was made after seeing golf courses open up across Michigan this past weekend.

"The executive order said golf courses and like activities and we kind of figured that we were a like activity," he said. "There's nowhere else like us in the area. So we thought we would do that and then we kind of rethought it after we made the decision."

Wiese said he contacted a law enforcement officer in Portage, who told him he thought it would be OK if the center opened. He said he probably didn't do enough research before making the decision, however.

"We probably should've checked with the state first," he said. "It's tough. We're trying to survive like everybody else.

"We got a little caught up in the golf course thing and probably didn't think it through as well as we should have. So when we got the approval from local authority we thought we'd be OK, but obviously not."

DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago – 1995

Two charter schools have been approved for Berrien County. The Educational Options Academy of St. Joseph and Countryside Charter School of Benton Harbor were among 31 charter schools approved by Central Michigan University trustees. Educational Options, being developed by former St. Joseph School Board member Dr. Joseph Naines, is scheduled to open this fall in the Masonic Temple building downtown. It plans to offer a specialized program for students who have dropped out of high school.

35 years ago – 1985

Blessing of the Blossoms yesterday launched southwest Michigan's Blossomtime Festival in the darkened St. Joseph High School auditorium that was a sharp contrast to clear sunny skies and mid-50s temperatures outdoors.

The service was moved indoors for the first time to avoid rain and cold temperatures. Chief Deputy Sheriff Don Jewell estimated 800 people turned out, which is more than the estimated 400-500 that showed up under overcast skies a year ago.

50 years ago – 1970

Leslie Stoffle of Fairplain Junior High won first place tonight in the Benton Harbor district declamation contest. Leslie's declamation was "The Dog" by George Graham Vest. Her coach in school is Mrs. Marion Luhrs. She also gets expert advice at home from her sister, Pat, a former district and county winner, now a student at Michigan State. Leslie will represent Benton Harbor in the county contest.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, April 29, the 120th day of 2020. There are 246 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On April 29, 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau concentration camp. Adolf Hitler married Eva Braun inside his "Fuhrerbunker" and designated Adm. Karl Doenitz president.

On this date:

In 1916, the Easter Rising in Dublin collapsed as Irish nationalists surrendered to British authorities.

In 1946, 28 former Japanese officials went on trial in Tokyo as war criminals; seven ended up being sentenced to death.

In 1957, the SM-1, the first military nuclear power plant, was dedicated at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In 1967, Aretha Franklin's cover of Otis Redding's "Respect" was released as a single by Atlantic Records.

In 1991, a cyclone began striking the South Asian country of Bangladesh; it ended up killing more than 138,000 people.

In 1992, a jury in Simi Valley, California, acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of motorist Rodney King; the verdicts were followed by rioting in Los Angeles.

In 2000, Tens of thousands of angry Cuban-Americans marched peacefully through Miami's Little Havana, protesting the raid in which armed federal agents yanked 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez from the home of relatives.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers
55°	43°	47° / 37°	54° / 46°	61° / 49°	59° / 45°

Local Outlook

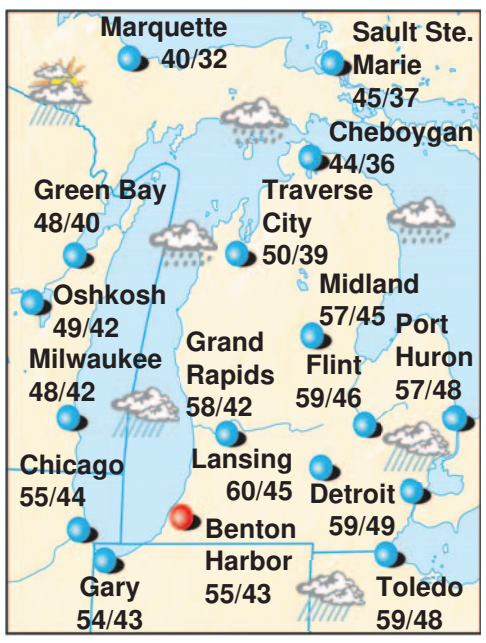
Today we will see cloudy skies with a 95% chance of showers, high temperature of 55°, humidity of 71%. Southwest wind 8 to 11 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 90% chance of showers, overnight low of 43°. West northwest wind 10 to 20 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 6:43 a.m.
Sunset ..... 8:43 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 11:30 a.m.
Moonset ..... 2:13 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
4/30	5/7	5/14	5/22

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	74°
Low	54°
Normal High	65°
Normal Low	43°
Record High	79° in 2004
Record Low	32° in 2010

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.07"
Month to date	3.79"
Normal for month	3.19"
Year to date	10.68"
Normal Year to date	8.84"

Air Quality

Yesterday 43
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

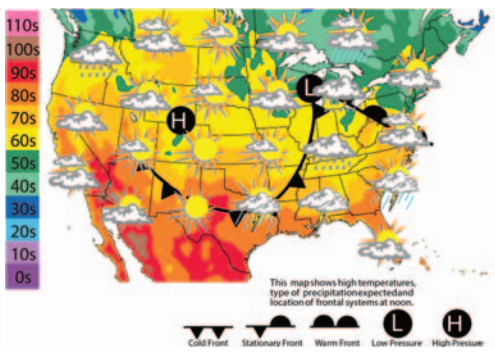
Weather Trivia

What were Benjamin Franklin's contributions to meteorology?

Answer: He showed that lightning is electricity.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for April 29, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, SSW wind 8 to 11 kt. Rain, with thunderstorms also possible. Waves 1 to 3 ft. Water temperature 43 degrees. Tonight, NNW wind 19 to 26 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread rain and showers, highs in the 40s and 50s. East northeast wind 17 to 25 mph. Expect mostly cloudy to cloudy skies Thursday with widespread rain, highs in the 40s. North northeast wind 11 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread showers, highs in the 50s and 60s. Southwest wind 8 to 11 mph. Expect cloudy skies Thursday with widespread showers, highs in the 40s and 50s. Northwest wind 20 to 23 mph.

Whitmer: Car insurance savings will be higher than required

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and a top state regulator said Tuesday that drivers will save more on car insurance than is required under a bipartisan overhaul of Michigan's auto insurance law.

Proposed rates filed by insurers, which will start taking effect in July, will be cut more than is mandated, according to the Whitmer administration. She called it "great news."

"It's great to see that it's paying off for Michiganders, especially during a time when drivers may need extra money in their pockets," the Democrat said in a statement.

The 2019 law will let drivers opt out of what has been mandatory, unlimited medical coverage for crash injuries. There will be six levels of personal injury protection, the portion of a premium that covers medical treatment and rehabilitation expenses. It also covers lost wages and assistance with things like cooking and cleaning.

Under the law, insurers must reduce statewide average PIP medical premiums for eight years. PIP can account for half of a premium.

The state Department of Insurance and Financial Services said it has approved six initial rate filings covering a quarter of the market. People who stick with unlimited benefits and buy policies from those companies will see an average 16.5 percent reduction on PIP instead of the 10 percent savings that is required.

HOTEL

From page A1

"There are no four-story hotels here," he said. "It's going to be a big hotel."

But before even considering whether to approve a site plan for the lodging facility, township planners had to amend a portion of the zoning ordinance that prohibits hotels higher than 35 feet tall.

"In order to allow for construction, we had to change the zoning to allow for hotels up to 50 feet in height," Odland said.

Planners held a public hearing in February to consider amending the zoning ordinance, and after receiving little comment, approved the change unanimously. The amendment to the zoning was then sent to the township board for its approval, which occurred earlier this month.

Township officials had expected the request.

"We had known it was coming," said South Haven Township Zoning Administrator Patrick Hudson. "Hotel industry trade information has been saying that due to land costs and parking requirements, they had to be able to go up in order to get enough parking without having to buy too much land."

Even though the site plan has been approved for construction of the hotel, the timetable for construction is uncertain.

"At this point we have no idea when construction will be allowed to begin," Hudson said. "Building permits have not been applied for as of yet."

According to Patel, work was expected to begin this spring, but with the COVID-19 pandemic unfolding and ongoing efforts to curb its spread, plans to proceed with the project were interrupted.

"We're delayed by two to three months," he said.

Another unknown is what will happen with the existing Holiday Inn Express & Suites on Phoenix Road, across the street from Patel's proposed hotel of the same name. Township Supervisor Ross Stein speculated that maybe the current Holiday Inn will change its brand name, but wasn't really sure if that will be the case.

Ed Vandenack of Edge Hospitality, which manages the current Holiday Inn, said he's waiting to see if the new hotel will actually be built, because of the pandemic.

"Whether they will have the ability to build, I really don't know," he said. "If it happens, it happens."

HAMEL

From page A1

he knew his chances were grim when they put him on the ventilator.

"I went to sleep with the countdown, thinking there was not much chance I was going to be conscious again," said Hamel in a phone interview on Tuesday.

Even though he's now home, Hamel said he's not out of the woods yet and has several weeks of therapy to go through before he, hopefully, can get back to a regular routine.

"There's still things that could go wrong," Hamel said. "I celebrate whatever extra days I have. There are times when someone who does well starts to do poorly again."

Hamel said he believes he has survived so far because of his strong nuclear family, the community's prayers and support, and the diligence of hospital staff to not be afraid to try different things to save the lives of patients with this new, terrible disease.

Not routine

The problem is that COVID-19 does not respond to standard care.

"The treatment is just so different from what we do for successful treatments for other lung issues," he said. "That's part of, for me, what's remarkable. This team (at Spectrum Health) is innovating and learning and trying and measuring and adjusting and doing things that are unprecedented."

While on the ventilator, he said they had him laying on his stomach up to 20 hours a day several of the days, which doctors have discovered allows the parts of the lungs not as damaged by the virus to do their work.

"The way COVID damages the lungs, it has a gravity nature to it," he said. "It damages the lower parts of the lung. Even sitting up is not as effective."

Normally, people on ventilators are kept on their backs. And there's good reason for that.

He said people in respiratory failure feel like they are drowning and want to be on their backs or partially sitting up. They definitely do not want to be on their stomachs.

He said much more sedation is required to keep them comfortable. And sedation carries its own risks.

"Imagine being operated on for eight days," he said.

Even turning a patient over like that is risky. He said it usually takes one to two people to turn patients, even those on ventilators. But when patients are on their stomachs, he said it takes eight people to negotiate the turning.

"In the midst of catastrophic failure of the respiratory system ... they turned me while I was conscious and had me sit at the edge of the bed and stand up while intubated, with protection and support," he said. "You just don't do those things and yet, here you do."

He said he was conscious enough "to sometimes contribute and sometimes resist."

"Mercifully, in the end, I was sedated enough not to recall the whole horrible experience," he said.

Family support

Hamel said his family not only gave him emotional support, but because several of them have medical degrees, they were able to really dig in and research what was working and what wasn't working around the world, regarding COVID-19. His medically trained family includes his twin brother, Dr. Loren Hamel, who is president of Spectrum Health Lakeland, along with his wife and one of his daughters, who are both ICU nurses.

Hamel said a team of 40 or more people, including many of his family members, met every day on Zoom to compare notes on how he was doing and on what new research they may have found.

"I feel so overwhelmed and blessed," he said.

Hamel also was one of the first patients at Spectrum Health to receive a transfusion of convalescent plasma from someone who had recovered from COVID-19 – a treatment used more typically long ago, before vaccines were made available for other afflictions. Hamel said the hope is that the antibodies from the plasma can help boost the immune system of the actively sick person.

But, as one of his family members said, it was a move carrying long odds – a "moon shot."

Hamel said there has been no large study done to see if the plasma helps. He explained that there are many variables, including the patient's immune system and the quality of the antibodies. When patients recover after receiving the plasma, he said nobody knows yet if this is a universal or individual response – or even if it had anything at all to do with the recovery.

In addition, Hamel said his blood type is rare, so finding someone to donate plasma with the proper blood type was a problem.

But it all came together and he said his recovery has been remarkable, so far.

"The rate of improvement from Thursday to Thursday, from being intubated and extubated ... has been like a rocket," he said.

Hamel said his therapists thought he would need a week or two more of recovery before returning home. But with the support of his family, he made it back home and is now working on thanking all of the people who supported him while he was ill.

Hamel said that what makes the fight against COVID-19 so remarkable is that all of the researchers worldwide are looking for better treatments and/or a vaccine. And medical staff are sharing what works and what doesn't work.

Michigan has benefited from the experience of other places in the world that started treating the virus in December and January and sharing their knowledge, he said. The first COVID-19 death in Michigan didn't happen until March.

Hamel explained that since he was taken off the ventilator, he has received hundreds of texts and messages from well-wishers.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

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